

# Lambda

Laurentian University's Student Newspaper  
Le journal des étudiant(e)s de l'Université Laurentienne  
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Zeal is fit only for wise  
men, but is found mostly  
in fools.

- Ancient proverb



## BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Feature pages 6-9

SINCE 1961



## Education groups rally to change student-aid

by Samer Muscati  
Ottawa Bureau (CUP)

An unlikely coalition of university administrators, professors and students have put aside their past differences and asked the federal government to revamp its delivery of student aid.

Seven national postsecondary education groups jointly released a series of recommendations on Jan. 20 that may help students cope with rising tuition costs and increased debt-loads.

The group wants the federal government to introduce new student-aid grants, interest relief on loans, opportunities for work-studies and tax relief measures.

"There is no single solution to student debt-load," said Don Savage, executive director of the Canadian Association of University Teachers. "The proposals are a remarkable thing. Most importantly, we have developed a package of solutions that address the various problems."

The main problem, say coalition members, is that student debt is rising unchecked at an alarming rate. Statistics Canada estimates that student loan debt-loads will triple to \$25,000 in 1998 from \$8,700 in 1990.

The education groups are urging the government to move fast and accept the recommendations to keep post-secondary education accessible. Gerry Godsoe, a government policy manager for the Canada Student Loans Program, says it's too early for the government to respond to the proposals, but promises to take a closer look at them.

One key element of the package is new targeted grants to help disadvantaged students by providing special financial aid. Single

parents would be eligible for an additional \$3,000 in loans over current limits, and high-need first-year students could receive up to \$2,000 in grants.

"The target grants would be for students who really need it and are an essential component of the recommendations," says Savage. "Without the grant system, the package won't fly."

Robert Best, director of government relations for the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada (AUCC), agrees and says the recommendations are not radical and shouldn't be dismissed.

"There was a recognition from the beginning that we have to be realistic and come up with a package that would be seen as fiscally responsible and politically realistic."

Best says another key recommendation is extending interest relief to all students with high debt, as well as relief on loans for borrowers with chronic repayment problems. This would make such borrowers eligible for a one-time grant paid to the lender to reduce the debt.

The coalition also wants the federal government to introduce a national work-study program, similar to those now in place in the United States, Ontario, and British Columbia, whereby students earn a wage subsidy for career-oriented work on campus.

The last series of recommendations involve several tax measures to help students and their families. They include tax incentives for families who save money for their children to attend post-secondary education and tax write-offs on interest costs of student loans.

Matthew Hough, national director of the Canadian Alliance of Student Associations, says the coalition timed the recommendations to have maximum clout with the government.

The Liberals are expected to make youth issues a central component of their election platform, while Finance Minister Paul Martin is expected to release a pre-election budget next in February.

The coalition's proposal is the first time all the members in the education sector -- which have a history of infighting -- agreed to work together on an issue.

"If we are not able to speak with one voice on matters that are this important, there is a real danger that the government would lose the political will to stay in the area of student assistance," said Best.

"If we weren't able to get our act together, how could we call on the federal government to work with the provinces and be a major player?"

The seven education groups that developed the recommendations are the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada, the Canadian Federation of Students, the Canadian Alliance of Student Associations, the Canadian Graduate Council, the Canadian Association of University Teachers, the Association of Canadian Community Colleges, and the Canadian Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators.

## Once obscure aboriginal leader now hero of partition movement

by M-J Milloy  
Montreal Bureau (CUP)

Quebec cannot expect to separate and take the Cree Nation with it.

That was the unequivocal message the Grand Chief of the James Bay Cree, Matthew Coon Come, gave this week to an enthusiastic crowd of over two hundred at a panel discussion on Quebec's borders after separation.

"No other people but the Cree will decide our future affiliation. We will not be passed from owner to owner like cattle in a field," he said.

The Cree Nation has always been self-governing, and the days are gone when Cree territory could be assigned to one or other provincial power without their consent, Coon Come said.

"In 1763, in 1898, this land was transferred with the stroke of the pen, without our knowledge," said Coon Come.

"When I told my father-in-law that his hunting territory was transferred by the King, he said to me 'but how, he has never been to this land?'"

"Those things will never happen again."

This was not the first time that Coon Come has made such strong statements -- he's been saying exactly the same thing since the Cree held their own referendum on their future, just days before the last provincial vote on sovereignty. Over 95% of Cree voted to remain in Canada in the event of a 'yes' vote in the Quebec referendum.

But what has changed since then is Coon Come's popularity amongst Montreal Anglophones who seek to keep English speaking regions of the province in Canada in the event of Quebec independence.

Coon Come has gone from being a relatively obscure aboriginal leader to a hero among many in the partition movement, for his clear and unequivocal stance against the sovereigntist government of Lucien Bouchard.

The Grand Chief has also recently come in for praise from another unlikely source -- Diane Francis, the editor of the Financial Post. In her recent book on the partition movement, she devoted an entire chapter to the Cree referendum.

A clear example of the high place many partitionist hold Coon Come came at the beginning of the evening, as the event's organiser rose to introduce the Grand Chief.

"Mr Coon Come, during the last referendum, you and the Crees stood alone. I can promise you that you will never stand alone again," said Steven Pinkus, the enthusiastic moderator of the panel discussion.

During the course of his speech, Coon Come attacked the PQ's respect for democracy -- a favourite target of partitionist leaders. "They cite the exercise of democracy as sufficient to separate Quebec from Canada, but they deny the democracy of the Cree," he said.

The Quebec government refused to recognise the validity of the Cree vote, saying that only a province-wide referendum had the authority to determine the future of any and all of the province.

Although many of Coon Come's speech was punctuated with strong applause from the crowd, he made it clear that he was fighting not for Canada, as many partitionist seem to believe, but for Cree sovereignty.

"I'm not opposed to Quebec separating, as long as Cree lands and resources are not included," he said.

Marc Lalonde, a former high-ranking Trudeau cabinet-member and another speaker on the panel, agreed that the legal and political situations of the Cree and the English in Quebec are fundamentally different.

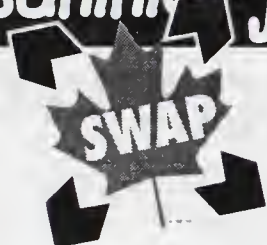
The Cree's right to decide their own future is "unimpeachable and unassailable," according to Lalonde. "The federal government has a legal responsibility after a 'yes' vote to defend aboriginal rights," he said.

But Lalonde wasn't so clearly spoken when it came to assessing the English community's chances of remaining in Canada.

"The situation would be anarchic, a case of anything goes," he said. There would only be a clear-cut legal case for partition if the Quebec government unilaterally declared independence, Lalonde said.

Lalonde refused to identify himself as a partitionist, saying only that he believed that "the Francophone minority in North America is better served now and in the future as part of Canada."

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## Restructuring Main Focus of Senate

by Norm Shields  
Staff Writer

Thursday's Senate meeting was more settled than recently with the resolution last December 12 of the restructuring "issue". The resolution was, of course, the creation of a two-faculty Laurentian university beginning next year. A moment's silence was observed for the late Peter Ennis.

Dr. Paul took advantage of the relatively light agenda to talk about how Laurentian University will be affected by the recommendations of the Advisory Panel on Future Directions for Postsecondary Education (1996), released in December. He characterized the paper as "favourable for universities", based largely on the Panel's recommendation [number 5] "that the Government of Ontario increase the size of the Research Overheads/Infrastructure Envelope from its current level of about \$23 million to about \$100 million annually."

But what is good news for

the universities, is bad news for the students. From a "good source", Dr. Paul revealed that a tuition hike on par with last year's is on its way. Coupled with this, is the Advisory Panel's recommendation #6.

Recommendation 6 suggests that i) tuition fees be deregulated ii) an "upper limit on fees" [to calculate assistance eligibility] be set by the government and be applied universally despite deregulation iii) ancillary fees be hidden in tuition iv) universities be "sensitive" and "make special efforts" to ensure that universal accessibility is not sacrificed.

The Advisory Panel was established in July of last year, with a three-part mandate: to advise on how university costs should be shared "among students, the private sector, and the government", on how to "promote and support co-operation between colleges and universities", and on how to "meet the expected levels of demand for postsecondary education". *Excellence, Accessibility, Responsibility: Report of the Advisory Panel on Future Directions for Postsecondary*

*Education* (Publications Ontario: December, 1996), is available "for a charge" from the government of Ontario (1-800-668-9938).

There are 18 recommendations in all, mostly relating to funding of the institutions. Other recommendations included more favourable tax treatment for those who contribute to universities, and of particular interest to students, the introduction, with or without federal support, of an ICLRP repayment plan. Income Contingent Loan Repayment Plans have been a popular concept, but other propositions in the past have generally been thought to be fraught with difficulties.

Interestingly, the Panel recognized the minority opinion that education be provided free of tuition to the student, but did not consider it further.

For Laurentian in particular, the Panel could not "develop recommendations [with confidence]" regarding the needs of aboriginal groups, nor about the unique requirements of a northern university, nor about the availability of "high quality" programs for Franco-Ontarians. On the contrary, Dr. Paul, the recommendations of the Panel are strike one, two, three for Laurentian students.

## Fail-out rates lower in residence, study says

by Chad Luff  
The Muse (CUP)

Many people view life in a university residence as a never ending orgy of toga parties and drinking games leading to countless late nights leaning over a toilet bowl in a cold sweat losing lunch while finding religion. But researchers at Memorial University could soon replace that image with one of late-night study sessions and high grades.

A study by the university's department of student services shows students living in residence are 15 per cent less likely to drop out of university over a two year period than those living in apartments, and 10 per cent less likely than those still living at home. Brian Johnston, Memorial's director of student housing, cautions the study is still in the preliminary stages and "too much should not be read into it." But he did say the early results are a good argument against the common misconception that residence students do poorly in school.

Johnston credits many of the services, such as house computers, academic advisors and house tutors for the success of residence, but acknowledges the negative aspect of the intense social atmosphere.

"Going to university is about getting a total education. Part of that education is growing up, learning to live with other people, learning to accept differences, compromise and learning to have fun," he said. "We promote academics, but at that age you should be having fun." Johnston does admit, however, some students aren't suited for residence life. "Residence isn't for everybody," he said. "Ninety per cent of our students have never shared a room with anyone and that is a major adjustment."

Dave Piercy, a student and academic advisor in Burke house, a co-ed residence, is a firm believer in the benefits of residence life. "To come in here, into this atmosphere, helps [students] much more than it is a hindrance," he said. "A lot of the residents have already gone through their first year and know exactly what it feels like to be shoved into this sort of environment from high school to university," Piercy said, adding the information and peer support provided to first year students is invaluable.

As well, he said, first-year students are not always aware of how much work a university student must do, and outside of residence, they don't have the example of people studying all around them. "When people talk about (residence life), they talk about the big parties . . . but they're talking about 10, maybe 15 years ago. That's not to say there's not a social atmosphere in (residence), but I think it's a healthy one."

## Universities and colleges team up to grant joint degrees

by Rachel Furey  
The Fulcrum (CUP)

The line between Ontario's universities and colleges is starting to blur with a series of joint programs for students aimed at combining elements from each type of institution.

Funding for 15 advanced training projects -- degrees gained from studying at partnered colleges and universities -- was announced by Ontario's College-University Consortium Council last month.

The projects, which include four joint university and college nursing programs and an accounting program involving Laurentian University, the University of Windsor and all of the province's 25 colleges, emphasize cooperation between the two types of postsecondary institutions.

The new joint projects marks the first time universities and colleges are cooperating at such a scale at the provincial level to offer combined degrees. While universities have traditionally focused on providing analytical skills, colleges are oriented more towards job-skills.

Tim Easley, College-University Consortium Council co-chair and president of Lambton College in Sarnia, says the projects' goal is to give students easy access to the different types of instruction provided at colleges and universities.

"We want fixed links between [the two postsecondary] islands."

The projects' \$812,300 bill is being footed by the provincial Ministry of Education and Training.

Easley says the government and the council suspect money and time is being wasted in the present system when students switching from one type of school to another aren't able to transfer their credits and end up repeating certain courses.

Vicky Smallman, spokesperson for the Canadian Federation of Students, says she is not convinced the joint projects are the best way to improve Ontario's postsecondary system.

Smallman says universities are becoming training grounds for the workforce and moving away from their traditional role as "institutions of higher learning." She says that if the current trend continues, academic priorities will be set by the needs of the marketplace rather than society's needs.

"Universities and colleges may not support other programs that meet the needs of society like community development and social work," said Smallman.

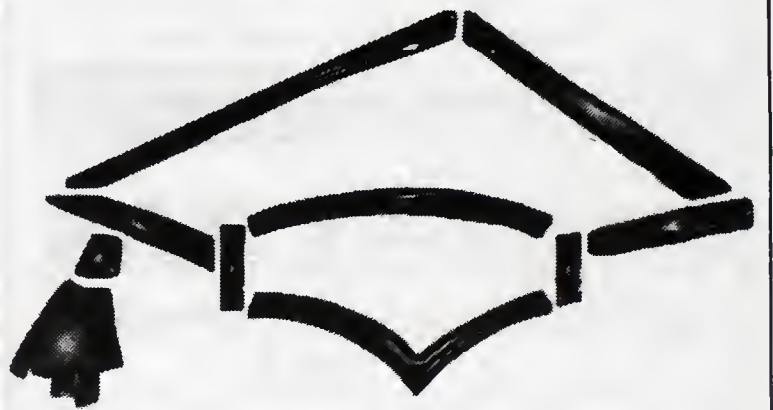
David Marshall, president of Nipissing University, admits that by implementing such projects, there is a danger of both types of institutions losing their focus.

"[The projects] explore the boundaries and edges between the college and university experience," said Marshall. "By working together we can let the college do what it does best and the university do what it does best. [It is] critical for both to retain a unique identity."

The shift to focus on collaboration between colleges and universities has been in the works for a number of years. A 1990 review of the mandate of Ontario's Colleges of Applied Arts and Technology prompted the government to establish a Task Force on Advanced Training.

The task force reported to the government in 1993, and recommended the government eliminate barriers to credit transfer between different types of postsecondary institutions and the establishment of an Ontario Institute for Advanced Training.

Ontario is not the only province working to promote joint post-secondary education programs. The Maritime Provinces Education Commission issued guidelines last November to help universities and colleges to create similar joint programs. Already, St. Thomas University and the Community College of New Brunswick jointly offer an applied degree program.



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The Amiable Librarian

This column is based on questions or suggestions received by staff members of the Desmarais Library either personally or on the "Compliments/Questions/Suggestions" form that may be filled out near the exit of the library.

**Question:** *Would you please do a Lexis-Nexis search for me on an American company? I am not a student at Laurentian, but I have heard about this wonderful service.*

**Reply** No, the Amiable Librarian is unable to do Lexis-Nexis searches for those folks who are not members of the Laurentian community. If you want such a search, phone Lexis-Nexis Express at 1-800-843-6476. The charge per search, including a list of citations is \$25.00 (US) and if you want an individual citation full-text, the charge is an additional \$5.00 (US).

Not wanting to rub it in, but these charges underscore what a great deal Lexis-Nexis is for Laurentian students who can buy a Nexis password for \$30.00 (Canadian) or a Lexis-Nexis password for \$45.00 (Canadian). The passwords allow unlimited searching -- and unlimited downloading, not only for this year but until the student graduates. It is an unbeatable deal that may not be continued by the company next year. So the Amiable Librarian advises anyone interested to subscribe now since those who do so this year are protected by the existing contract.

If any reader is interested in the service and wants to know more, he or she can clip this column and bring it in for a free search to the Amiable Librarian. Normally, the library charges \$10 for a L-N search, a figure which may be applied to the full password. Already more Laurentian students subscribe to the service than anywhere else in the world. Isn't it time you found out what the fuss is all about?

**Question:** *Why is the Library promoting Lexis-Nexis with such a passion? Do you get a cut?*

**Reply** Absolutely not! For each student subscriber, the library charges exactly what the student pays. There is no mark-up tacked on. As to why the Library is promoting Lexis-Nexis, the largest and most heavily used on-line service in the world, the answer is twofold.

The first is the quantity of information available. Recently a history professor was looking for a summary of current developments in Yugoslavia. Since Lexis-Nexis contains hundreds of newspapers, magazines and journals full-text, where else to turn but L-N? In political science a student was looking for a copy of the Helms-Burton Bill (since he had failed to obtain it from either Helms' office or from the Canadian government). Because L-N contains all American statutes, as well as law cases and many law reviews, it was natural to turn to L-N for the answer. Business students, Nursing students and students from most other disciplines are also using the system with great satisfaction. The second reason the library is promoting L-N is that the library believes the use of L-N is a wonderful way for students to develop critical thinking and computer search skills. Since L-N generally produces too much information, students learn quickly the necessity of formulating the requests and of narrowing their results. These skills prove invaluable when they approach other computer systems such as the library's on-line catalogue or the CDs.

**Question:** *Why is the Internet not available to guests from other universities?*

**Reply** The University is prohibited by its agreement with ONET from providing access to guests from other universities, if by access you mean assigning an internet account. ONET stands for the Ontario university and college computer NETwork. That said, if you need to use the 'net for a special purpose on one or tow occasions, why not contact the Amiable Librarian?

SPACE FOR RANT

Letter to the Editor

I have a little complaint to make about something that happened to my roommate and I this past Wednesday. Do you remember that big snow storm that we had two weeks ago? Well, there we were waiting behind the residence for our other roommate and unfortunately for us, we got stuck. For half an hour we tried everything; digging through the snow, cat litter under the tires and pushing with all my force, nothing was working. To our great pleasure we saw a knight in shinning armor coming to our rescue, but he came out laughing, he had heard something funny, and of course we asked him to share. He told us that he had been inside and was watching two of Laurentian's security guards, sitting inside in the warm laughing at us. Wow was I pissed!! I went inside and oh so gracefully asked them for their assistance. Well You would have thought that I asked them to donate one of their livers. I got a dirty look and big deep breath like it was some big imposition asking them to do their job. Aren't they paid to make sure the students are safe? Five minutes after asking them, they finally came out and with one long push we were out. The only thought on my mind was "Wow they were laughing at us. Security guards were standing inside watching us, in our pajamas, (it was three in the morn-

ing by the way) try to push a van out of a snow drift with only ice underneath us. You have to ask yourself what the hell these idiots are being paid for. I guess they feel that their job doesn't include making sure we are safe from the elements of winter." My next problem occurred the same night. Again threeish in the morning and we decided we couldn't stop again or else we would get stuck, so we drove around campus looking for a pay phone to call up and let the person we were picking up know that we had moved. Well, do you think that we could find an open phone that was not behind locked doors? NO. Really safe I must say. I hope nobody runs into a problem and needs a phone because THERE IS NONE. I don't understand why they can't invest money in ONE phone booth somewhere on the campus in case of an emergency that may not involve security. And talking about security again, don't you think they should take better care of those direct lines in boxes around campus? Point in hand, I was waiting for the bus, saw one of these boxes



and out of sheer curiosity I tried to open it. NOPE! It was frozen shut. Tried with all my might to pry that thing open but to no avail, she wasn't budging. Once again, how safe is that? Can you imagine being chased by someone and you see a phone and feel a little relief only to find out that it is frozen shut? Get on the ball security people. Stop worrying about who is parking where, we all pay a shit load of money to be here so protect us and not some parking spot that nobody uses anyway (but that is another bitch session).

Kim.

Dear Editor,

I have to say, I take extreme offence to the recent columns and letters printed dealing with the question of male/female relations. Bouncing between the tired *women read too much into things* and *men are too stupid to understand our complexities* arguments, Bryson McCarthy and Jordan Gifford sound like children singing, "Anything boys can do, girls can do better"... or vice versa.

Can't you see that you're both just buying into the newest form of male/female stereotypes that we've been spoon-fed by "Home Improvement"? Even though you're arguing, you're both saying the same thing.

Yes, men and women do have differences, but men are not all simple creatures with "small brains" and women are not all over-analytical and paranoid. Men and women can both be complex, simple, sensitive, neurotic, beer-guzzling, insecure or caring at times, while possessing a host of other characteristics.

You do yourselves and your genders a disservice by indulging in such ignorant, pop-culture generalizations. Look at one another, just for a moment, as people... and use the brain you both possess instead of the stereotypes you've adopted in order to understand one another.

Natalie Huffels

Want to get something off your chest? Need to rant a little (or a lot)?

Write a Letter to the Editor.



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## Get In The Ring

by Bryson McCarthy  
Columnist



This week I am pissed, and all I can say is...Let's Get Ready To Rumble!!! Guys, I am after you. Not all guys, but those of you who decide to either stare at or even comment out loud about parts of a females anatomy. And I think you know exactly who you are!

I will agree with most guys, a female body is a work of art. It is one of the most beautiful thing ever created, but it does not need to be the focus of our attention. Guys, girls are not stupid, they know when you are staring at anything that is not their face, and they do take offence to it. My girlfriend for example has told me of many situations where she has been very offended by someone staring at her for long periods of time. This in turn offends me that someone could look at my girlfriend like that and make her feel that uncomfortable. Staring bad enough, but what really gets me are those guys who take it even further.

There are a few in every crowd, and you know who they are. They are those wild guys who think they are so cool by rating, commenting or calling out about female anatomy within earshot of the female in question, or anyone who does not appreciate this type of behaviour. Do you actually think this will make you more attractive to the female by letting them know you only noticed them be-

cause of their anatomy? Grow up moron. Its you who are making women feel less comfortable to be themselves around guys. I wish my girlfriend didn't have to tell me these stories, but I guess its what is happening out there. Sure, its natural to be physically attracted to a person, but that's not all that's there. And if that is all you are interested in, you have some major problems going on in that head of yours.

I know there are a lot of guys out there laughing and thinking I am trying to suck up or something. I'm not, I am stating my opinion. Just think about it like this; what if you heard someone talking like that about your girlfriend, or sister, or mother or even grandmother. You wouldn't even hesitate to grab that person, throw down the gloves and just say...get in the ring!

## Students Urge Tuition Freeze

by Kim Dal Bianco  
News Editor

Tuition must be frozen in order to protect access for students in the Ontario's colleges and universities. Members of the Ontario Component of the Canadian Federation of Students met last weekend in Hamilton, Ontario, and reaffirmed the Federation's campaign to freeze tuition, prevent deregulation and protect the integrity of public postsecondary education in the province.

"Students can no longer afford to make up for inadequate government funding", says Vicky Smallman, Chair of the provincial organization.

"We pay more of the cost of our education than all other Canadian provinces, more than students at public universities in the United States, and about the same as students at private universities in the US. Enough is enough. The government must start reinvesting in our universities and colleges."

Students condemned the recommendation by the Advisory Panel on Future Directions for Postsecondary Education to deregulate tuition, thus allowing institutions to set differ-

ent tuition levels to different programs. The members of the Federation approved a campaign strategy that works towards raising awareness of the implications of deregulation on the quality and accessibility of postsecondary education, and on the relationship between financial and sociocultural barriers to education.

"Deregulation poses real dangers for

our public system. Students will be forced to make educational choices based on financial circumstances, and this undermines the value and the pur-

pose of postsecondary education," commented Smallman. "Essentially, deregulation means the creation of a two-tiered system within our public institutions, and it will only serve to deny access to students from less privileged backgrounds, and to students from remote geographic regions."

The Federation will be lobbying the Minister of Education and Training to freeze tuition, to eliminate deregulation as a policy option, and to reinstate child bursaries for students with parental responsibilities as well as lower post-program fees for graduate students. For further information please contact Vicky Smallman, Ontario Chair, (416) 925-3825.

## LETTERS, Continued from page 4

### Letter to the Editor,

This is just a quick note to let the students of Laurentian University know about the Spring Break trips that are being offered on campus and to inform them of a few misconceptions that I've heard from our faithful campus travel agency, Travel Cuts.

I am promoting Spring Break trips to Daytona Beach and Panama City Beach Florida through Inter-Campus Programs (ICP) and it seems that Travel Cuts is also promoting a Daytona Beach trip. However, they are not the same trip. Travel Cuts does say some things that are untrue about my own trips. I personally had the chance to speak to one of the agents and I was told that the trip I'm organizing was "illegal" and that Inter-Campus Programs was "not a reputable company". This is called slander (a false or malicious statement about a person, and that's exactly what that comment is... FALSE and not to mention illegal! Kind of ironic isn't it? Here are the facts. Inter-Campus Programs has worked with Travel Cuts through the years '86-'96. Does this mean that Travel Cuts sold us crooked and dishonest trips for a decade? I don't think so. ICP sells more Spring Break trips in North America than anyone else. ICP is in good standing with the Better Business Bureau and is a recognized Travel Agency by the Ontario Travel Registrar and have been for many years.

Travel Cuts doesn't want ICP to advertise on campus. The irony of it all is that the students of Laurentian University fund Travel Cuts (part of our tuition fee) and they still have more expensive prices. Does it make sense having a "student travel agency" that charges the students more?

Richard Arnold



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# Why We Need Black History Month - All Year Around

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Having lived in Canada for many years now, I have come to know the month of February as Black History Month. In fact, since 1926, February has been designated as Black History month in North America.

During one of the Black History Month celebrations here in Edmonton, I engaged in a chat with a gentleman who had come to find out what it was all about. During our conversation he kept asking me why do Black people need a month to celebrate their history? He wanted to know what is Black history? And if there is any history of African people at all to talk or read about.

I must say I was not surprised at his queries. I cannot remember the number of times I have heard or read somewhere that, as Africans we have not contributed anything substantial to history. In fact, to many Westerners we have no history at all. This statement by a Columbia University professor is very typical: "Over the past 5,000 years," he noted, "the history of black Africa is blank. The black African had no written language; no numerals; no calendar, or system of measurement. He did not devise a plough or wheel, nor did he domesticate an animal; he built nothing more complex than a mud hut or thatched stockade. The African had no external trade except in slaves of his own race, in ivory, and (on the West Coast) in palm oil and mahogany."

And of course, there is the much quoted pronouncement by the eminent Oxford University historian, Professor Hugh Trevor-Roper who said that: "Perhaps in the future there will be some African history to teach. But at the present there is none; there is only the history of Europeans in Africa. The rest is darkness ... and darkness is not the subject of history".

Or what about the view expressed by the British scholar of Africa, Margery Perham, who wrote that: "Until the very recent penetration of Europe the greater part of the [African] continent was without the wheel, the plough or the transport animal; without stone houses or clothes except skins; without writing and so without history."

In his book, *Progress and Evolution of Man in Africa*, Dr. L. S. B. Leakey wrote that: "In every country that one visits and where one is drawn into a conversation

about Africa, the question is regularly asked by people who should know better: "But what has Africa contributed to world progress?"

What I have found troubling though is how many of us in the Black or African communities still believe some of these statements. I have encountered Blacks who are completely ignorant or have less knowledge about African history - despite the many fine books on African history and the rise of the Afrocentric movement in North America.

African-American historian John Hope Franklin was right when he told an interviewer that: "[Blacks] can never expect the public schools to teach us as much about our history as we want to know. We can urge them, we can press them to teach more, but I think that much of this lies with us."

As someone interested in Black education, I find it a tragedy that many Black and African children grow up today convinced of their own inferiority. The educational process largely ignores the contributions of Blacks to world civilization and is full of negative perceptions of Blacks and their culture. The school system in North America has continually 'perpetuated the historical myths and stereotypes about the African past.

I was almost moved to tears to read in a recent Canadian newspaper report about a Black student who until enrolling in a Black-oriented remedial school never knew or read a book by a Black author. There have been reports about how studies in Black history have been an "eye-opener for [Black] students" in Canadian high schools.

One account noted that students are not taught any African or Black history in regular classes. As one student put it: "They have always taken Canadian history, prime ministers, kings, queens. Maybe some US history. But they've never taken anything African". Or as another student said at a high school in Toronto: "History, Canadian history, English or anything else, was always about white people."

In a Windsor high school where a history course in African history has just begun, teachers observed how Black students are "amazed and are absolutely intrigued about what they learn about the African past." Similarly, the introduction of Black history in a Toronto high school in 1993 is part of an initiative to engage more black students in academics, to hook in kids who come from educational jurisdictions outside Canada.

Their vital interest in the course would be the means to develop their learning skills+researching, communicating, reading. "Already, teachers in Canadian schools have noticed what one called +signs of a newly informed dissent." One teacher observed that: "A few weeks ago, one of my students, stood up in his Grade 11 English class and asked why there weren't any black writers on the reading list." And "through the influence of the black history course, a number of "high-risk" students are taking on more academically demanding

courses and faring well."

I have always believed what African American historian John Henrik Clarke said a long time ago that, to control a people you must first control what they think about themselves and how they regard their history and culture. And when your conqueror makes you ashamed of your culture and your history, he needs no prison walls and no chains to hold you.

The chains on your mind are more than enough. Over time, many of us Africans have been injected with inferiority complexes, humiliation and cultural degradation as a result of the lack of knowledge of ourselves and our past. We have become caricatures and an inferior subset of the human race in the body of Western thought. Teacher, historian and educational psychologist, Asa Hilliard has said many times that no groups other than Native Americans and African Americans, in the history of the United States have undergone more defamation of character through distortion, omission, suppression of information, and genocide.

African American historian Carter Woodson has written about how "the thought of the inferiority of the Negro is drilled into him in almost every class he enters and in almost every book he studies .... To handicap a student by teaching him that his black face is a curse and that his struggle to change his condition is hopeless is the worst form of lynching. It kills one's aspirations and dooms him to vagabondage and crime".

This degradation of African peoples goes on till this day. Just witness the recent publication of Richard Herrnstein and Charles Murray's "The Bell Curve: Intelligence and Class Structure in American life", a book that assigns genetically inferior intelligence to African peoples everywhere.

It is enough of a tragedy for colonialists and white racists to degrade Africans in this manner, but this tragedy is compounded when as Africans we join in the mockery. Therefore, to me, there can be no freedom until there is freedom of the mind. I always remember the lyric by the late Bob Marley which says: "Emancipate yourself from mental slavery; None but ourselves can free our minds."

This brings me back to why there is a Black History Month in North America. Why is it important to know our history? Carter Woodson, who is credited with founding Black History Month was the premier Black historian to put forward the idea of African history as a form of Black cultural empowerment and emancipation.

In his view, the knowledge and dissemination of African history would, "besides building self-esteem among blacks, help eliminate prejudice among whites." He aimed both "to inculcate in the mind of the youth of African blood an appreciation of what their race has thought and felt and done" and to publicize the facts of the Black among whites, so that "the Negro may enjoy a larger share of the privileges of democracy as a result of the recognition of his worth."

In a speech at Hampton In-

stitute in 1921 Woodson addressed the issue head on: "We have a wonderful history behind us. ... If you are unable to demonstrate to the world that you have this record, the world will say to you, 'You are not worthy to enjoy the blessings of democracy or anything else'. They will say to you, +Who are you, anyway? Your ancestors have never controlled empires or kingdoms and most of your race have contributed little or nothing to science and philosophy and mathematics."

So far as you know, they have not; but if you will read the history of Africa, the history of your ancestors' people of whom you should feel proud+you will realize that they have a history that is worth while. They have traditions...of which you can boast and upon which you can base a claim for a right to a share in the blessings of democracy.

Let us, then, study...this history...with the understanding that we are not, after all, an inferior people. ... We are going back to that beautiful history and it is going to inspire us to greater achievements. It is not going to be long before we can sing the story to the outside world as to convince it of the value of our history...and we are going to be recognized as men.

In his 1933 classic work, *The Miseducation of the Negro*, Woodson showed the fundamental problems concerning the education of the African person. He noted how Blacks have been educated away from their own culture and traditions and how as African peoples we have attached ourselves to European culture often to the detriment of our own heritage.

Who would believe for example that, the music department of Fisk University, a traditionally Black university, concentrated on classical European music to the exclusion of the music that expressed the Black experience in America, and Black history and sociology courses were rare and exceptional until after World War I? Or that French textbooks on African history taught to African children on the African continent, even to this day, would treat French colonialism in Africa as an unqualified blessing and joy for the African?

If education is ever to be substantive and meaningful within the context of North American and world history, Woodson argued, it must first address the African+s historical experiences, both in Africa and the Diaspora. "No nation, no race," observed Dr. Charles Finch of the Morehouse School of Medicine "can face the future unless it knows what it is capable of. This is the function of history."

Thus, as James Walker notes in his book, *A History of Blacks in Canada*: "...the study of black history can give blacks a sense of the positive achievements of their people, and provide self-confidence and self-pride which are essential to any program of assertiveness." Cornell University Professor Martin Bernal, author of *Black Athena*, has acknowledged that: "Eurocentric history as taught in schools and universities has had a very large ego-boosting, if not therapeutic, purpose for whites. ... It's in a way normal for the idea that Blacks

should have some confidence building in their pedagogy."

There is a Swahili adage which says: "You are what you make of yourself, and not what others make you." In fact, a positive identity or enhanced self-concept is critical for the academic, social, and personal success of Black students everywhere. And this is where Black history becomes important.

Ghana's Kwame Nkrumah has written about the need for "a re-awakening [of] consciousness among Africans and peoples of African descent of the bonds that unite us - our historical past, our culture, our common experience and our aspirations."

And the late Afro-Guyanese historian, Walter Rodney made the same point when he wrote that: "What we need is confidence in ourselves, so that as Africans we can be conscious, united, independent and creative. A knowledge of African achievements in art, education, religion, politics, agriculture, medicine, science and the mining of metals can help us gain the necessary confidence which has been removed by slavery and colonialism."

So if they say as Africans we don't have a history, we should be able to point out the fallacy in such ignorant statements by referring to works by distinguished African historians such as Cheikh Anta Diop, Chancellor Williams, Walter Rodney, Adu Boahen, John Jackson, Yosef Ben-Jochannan, John Hope Franklin, Leronne Bennett Jr., John Henrik Clarke, J. F. Ade Ajayi and many more. Thanks to their works, we've come to know that when we talk about African history, we are also talking about African astronomy, African mathematics, African metallurgy, African medicine, African engineering and so on.

And thanks to the great contribution by the late African historian, Cheikh Anta Diop, we now know that the history that we need to recover includes that Egyptian science and technology which laid the foundation for the development of Europe. The use of historical knowledge must be a weapon in our struggle for complete liberation.

An overall view of ancient African civilizations and ancient African cultures is required to get rid of all myths about the African past, which continues to linger in the minds of Black and African peoples everywhere. And that is what Black History Month is all about. Remember the African saying: "Know your history and you will always be wise."

NEXT WEEK  
ASPARTAME  
"AKA"  
NUTRASWEET



# African-American literature

## African American Short Fiction

Although not as well recognized or appreciated as the novel or drama, the short stories of twentieth century African American writers have, nevertheless, occasionally been very well accepted. Among those either critically acclaimed or popularly well received were Jean Toomer (for his *Cane*, not a novel but a unified collection of short stories), Langston Hughes, Richard Wright (*Uncle Tom's Children* and *Eight Men*), and numerous contemporary authors.

## African drama

The first African American play to be produced on Broadway was "The Chip Woman's Fortune" in 1923, written by Willis Richardson.

In 1959, Lorraine Hansberry became the first Black woman to have a play produced on Broadway, with "A Raisin in the Sun." Since that time there has been a steady production of plays by African American artists who often bring their own personal experiences in the struggle against racial discrimination to the literature they produce.

August Wilson, who has won two Pulitzer Prizes, is considered by many to be the country's outstanding playwright. In addition, Anna Deaver Smith has won critical attention with her "Twilight: Los Angeles, 1992", based on city residents after the 1992 riot.

During the last 30 years three African Americans have won the

Pulitzer Prize for drama: Charles Gordone, for "No Place to be Somebody," Charles Fuller, for "A Soldier's Story," and August Wilson.

## African folktale

Since "Aesop," the Ethiopian slave who won his freedom by telling delightful animal fables to his Greek master, African folktales and fables have travelled the globe with enduring and distinctively enjoyable characteristics.

Centuries later, Afrocentric folktales were distributed throughout the Western hemisphere along the routes established in the 17th century by the slave trade. African people, denied all personal freedom and possessions, nevertheless preserved an oral tradition of stories and adapted these to their new environs.

Often the story version changed characters' names, flora and fauna, and its cultural context, but the essence of the story remained untouched. These variants can be found throughout Brazil, Venezuela, Central America, the Caribbean, the United States, and, as cross-cultural variants, among the tribes American Indians. Today the oral tradition has become increasingly silent, yet since the mid-twentieth century, many African folktales and their variants exist in book anthologies.

## African American Poets & Poetry

The earliest African American poets were Jupiter Harmon,

George Moses Horton, and Phillis Wheatley -- all slaves who usually wrote poetry with religious themes.

Following the Civil War Paul Laurence Dunbar achieved fame with lyric and dialect poems for the most part. Both he and William Stanley Braithwaite avoided any mention of any racial injustice in their writing.

During the Harlem Renaissance James Weldon Johnson, Langston Hughes, Claude McKay, and Countee Cullen all won recognition as major poets.

Contemporary poets have included Gwendolyn Brooks, Margaret Walker, Rita Dove, Nikki Giovanni, Audre Lorde, Jay Wright, and Maya Angelou. Dove won a Pulitzer Prize for poetry for her 1986 book *Thomas and Beulah*, and is currently the poet laureate of the U.S.

## Novelists

Although some novelists, namely Richard Wright, Ralph Ellison, and James Baldwin produced most of their important work during the period 1940-1960, it has really been since about 1970 that there has been truly national recognition of African American novelists. Certainly the civil rights movement served as an impetus for both the growth and widespread acceptance of these writers.

Today a relatively new group of Black novelists -- Toni Morrison, Ishmael Reed, Terry McMillan, and Alice Walker, to name just a few -- are among the leading figures of the new generation of writers who have gained wide popularity.



### GELEDE. HEADDRESS

Yoruba, Nigeria

Wood

The annual *Gelede* festival honors the creative and dangerous powers of women elders, female ancestors, and goddesses, known affectionately as "our mothers." The *Gelede* headdress often consists of two parts, a lower mask and an upper superstructure. The lower mask depicts a woman's face, its composure expressing the qualities of calmness, patience, and "coolness" desired in women. The static expression and simplicity of this portion of the headdress contrasts with vitality and diversity of the superstructure. The design of the superstructure is intended to placate the mothers by displaying their inner powers for all to see, thus pleasing them and ensuring the well-being of the community. Birds signify the dangerous nocturnal powers of women who act as witches. Snakes symbolize the positive feminine qualities of patience and coolness. The snake coiled around the front also cautions vigilance with the saying "the snake sleeps but continues to see." *Gelede* artists demonstrate their artistry and mastery of the medium by developing complex imagery within the confines of the basic cylindrical mass of wood. The elaborately carved example shown here (originally painted in bright colors) exhibits many different forms and angles to view, as the dancer moves before his admiring audience.

Gift of Mr. and Mrs. Martin J. Tauger, 1979.58.9

# February is Black History Month

A full appreciation of the celebration of Black History Month requires a review and a reassessment of the social and academic climate that prevailed in the Western world, and especially in North America before 1926 when Black History Month was established.

It is important to recall that between 1619 and 1926, African Americans and other peoples of African descent were classified as a race that had not made any contribution to human civilization. Within the public and private sector, African Americans and other peoples of African descent were continually dehumanized and relegated to the position of non-citizens and often defined as fractions of humans. It is estimated that between 1890 and 1925, an African American was lynched every two and a half days.

The academic and intellectual community was no different from the bulk of mainstream America. Peoples of African descent were visibly absent in any scholarship or intellectual discourse that dealt with human civilization.

African Americans were so dehumanized and their history so distorted in academia that "slavery, peonage, segregation and lynching"

were considered justifiable conditions. In fact, Professor John Burgess, the founder of Columbia University graduate school of Political Science and an important figure in American scholarship defined the African race as "a race of men which has never created any civilization of any kind..."

It was this kind of climate and the sensational, racist scholarship that inspired the talented and brilliant African American scholar, Dr. Carter Godwin Woodson to lead the struggle and search for the truth and institutionalize what was then referred to as "Negro History Week". A Harvard trained Ph.D., Dr. Woodson dropped out of mainstream academia to devote his life to the scientific study of the African experience in America, Africa and throughout the world.

Under Woodson's direction and contributions from other African American and white scholars, the "Negro History Week" was launched on a serious platform in 1926 to neutralize the apparent ignorance and deliberate distortion of Black History. Meetings, exhibitions, lectures and symposia were organized to climax the scientific study of the African experience throughout the year in order to give a more objective and

scholarly balance in American and World history.

Today, this national and international observance has been expanded to encompass the entire month of February. The expansion, of course, has increased the number of days for celebration, but its strength and importance lie in the new meaning that has emerged. As Ralph L. Crowder points out in an article in the December 1977 issue of the *Western Journal of Black Studies*, "it is no longer sufficient to devote the entire month to the celebration of great Negro contributions to the American mainstream."

I believe, like Dr. Crowder, that it is necessary to use the occasion to examine the collective ingenuity, creativity, cultural and political experience of the masses of Africans and peoples of African descent. In North America, a variety of programs - including lectures, exhibitions, banquets and a host of cultural activities are presented throughout the month of February to commemorate the occasion. It is not uncommon, during these weeks in February, for African students in the U.S. to receive a number of invitations to speak at gatherings, schools and in community churches.

In Ghana, it is the W.E.B. DuBois Center for Pan African Culture that has been in the forefront of programs developed to mark the observance. The intention of the founders was not and is still not to initiate a week's or a month's study of the universal African experience. Instead, the observance portrays the climax of a scientific study of the African experience throughout the year.

The month of February is significant and recognized in African American history for the birthdays of great African American pioneers and institutions. These include the birthdays of Frederick Douglass, W.E.B. DuBois, Langston Hughes, Eubie Blake, NAACP and the first Pan African Congress.

Historians may also recall that the first African American Senator, Hiram Revels took the oath of office in February 1870. Black History Month takes on a paramount significance as we approach the 21st century. Civil rights laws and celebrations such as Black History Month have exposed the legal consequences of overt discriminatory practices and racial harassment. The struggles for, and achievement of independence by African countries in the 20th century have shown the strength, the humanity, the ingenuity and the

contributions of the African to the human civilization.

However, these revelations have not neutralized the prevalence of prejudicial attitudes which generate discriminatory acts both on a national and in the international arena. Behaviour may be controlled by laws, national and international, but attitudes can only change through education and the elimination of ignorance. I believe strongly that Black History Month should be the reaffirmation of struggle and determination to change attitudes and heighten the understanding of the African experience. In the words of Ralph Crowder, "the observance must be a testimony to those African pioneers who struggled to affirm the humanity of African peoples and a challenge to the present generation to protect and preserve...the humanity of all peoples of African descent."

**Happy Black History Month**



# African-American Pioneers

## Harriet Ross Tubman

Harriet Ross Tubman, was the most famous "conductor" of the "Underground Railroad." Born into slavery around 1820 in Maryland, she received no schooling, worked very hard, and was often a victim of severe punishment. In 1848, she escaped to Philadelphia via the "Underground Railroad." Later she returned to the South 18 times to help hundreds of slaves escape to freedom. She was never caught, although rewards for her capture once totaled \$40,000. Despite her fame and the honors bestowed upon her, she spent her last years in poverty. Proceeds from her biography were given to her by Sarah Bradford, author of the book, to help ease her financial distress. She died in 1913. A postage stamp with her portrait was released in 1978.

## Maya Angelou

Maya Angelou, is an author, poet, lecturer, playwright, actress, singer and dancer. She was born on April 4, 1928, in St. Louis. At age 3, after her parents separated, she was sent to live with her paternal grandmother in a segregated town in rural Arkansas. Angelou became nationally known in 1970 with the publication of her book, *I Know Why The Caged Bird Sings*, which was a National Book Award nominee. The autobiography recounts her painful experiences with Southern racism. After living in California for many years, she returned to the South, where she is Reynolds Professor of American Studies a lifetime appointment at Wake Forest University in Winston-Salem, N.C.

## Ralph J. Bunche

Ralph J. Bunche, was a Black diplomat and United Nations

official. He received the Nobel Peace Prize in 1950 - the first Black to get the award. Bunche was born on August 7, 1904, in Detroit, and moved to Los Angeles after the death of his parents. He attended the University of California at Los Angeles on an athletic scholarship. He graduated summa cum laude with a B.A. degree in International relations in 1927. Bunche joined the United Nations staff in 1946 and was appointed to the peace-keeping Palestine Commission.

As the U.S. mediator, he was instrumental in the peace settlement between the Arabs and Israelis in 1949. His efforts won him the Nobel Peace Prize. From 1968 until his retirement, Bunche was under-secretary general, the highest ranking American at the U.N. He died in 1971, two months after his retirement.

## George Washington Carver

George Washington Carver, a distinguished agricultural researcher, revolutionized the Southern economy. His development of products from crops such as peanuts and soybeans helped the South shed its dependence on cotton.

From peanuts alone, he derived more than 300 products among them, soap, ink, flour, dyes, cosmetics, cheese and milk. He was born a slave in Missouri in 1864. He and his mother were abducted by slave raiders when he was born.

He was bought back by his owner, but his mother was never found. In 1886, Booker T. Washington offered him a post at Tuskegee Institute in Alabama, where Carver spent the rest of his life doing research. Carver never patented any of his many discoveries.

## Shirley Chisholm

Shirley Chisholm in 1968, became the first Black woman to be elected to the United States Congress. In 1972, she became the first Black woman to be a candidate for the Democratic Presidential nomination. Chisholm was a nursery school teacher, director of a day-care center and a consultant for the New York Department of Social Services before entering politics.

## W.E.B. DuBois

W.E.B. DuBois, Historian, Sociologist, and Black protest leader, was one of the most influential Black leaders of the 20th century. He was among the civil rights pioneers who used their scholarly skills to advance the cause of Black Americans. DuBois was born in 1868 in Barrington, Mass., where he completed high school. He received a B.A. degree from Fisk University in 1888, and a second B.A. degree from Harvard University in 1888. He went on to earn M.A. and Ph.D. degrees from Harvard University. As a social scientist, he authored more than 20 books and over 100 scholarly articles.

## Alex Haley

Alex Haley, an American author was born in 1921 in Ithaca, N.Y., and grew up in the South. He is best known for his book, *Roots: The Saga of an American Family*, published in 1976. He started his writing career while in the Coast Guard, writing short stories for magazines. He became chief journalist for the Coast Guard, and handled its public relations. When he retired from the Coast Guard he became a full-time freelance writer.

## Benjamin L. Hooks

Benjamin L. Hooks, was executive director of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, which seeks to achieve equal rights and to eliminate racial prejudice. Hooks was unanimously elected president of the NAACP in 1977. Hooks, an ordained Baptist minister, was born in Memphis to a middle-class family. He studied at LeMoyne College in Memphis and at Howard University in Washington, D.C. In 1949, he received his law degree from DePaul University.

## Jesse Jackson

Jesse Jackson, a dynamic Black civil rights leader, gained worldwide recognition as a contender for the Democratic Presidential nomination in 1984. Although he was defeated by Walter Mondale, he won substantial support. Appointed by Martin Luther King, Jr. in 1966 as director of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference's "Operation Breadbasket" he was effective through economic boycotts in persuading many white-owned companies to change their hiring and promotion policies. Because of Jackson's close work with King, he became King's protege. He was with King at the Lorraine Hotel in Memphis when King was assassinated in 1968.

## John Edwards Jacob

John Edward Jacob, was the president of the National Urban League, which strives to see that Blacks and other minorities are given equal opportunities in society. Jacob's career with the NUL began in 1965 as Director of Education and Youth Incentives in Washington, D.C. Jacob is vice chairman of the board of trustees at Howard University, and a member of the boards of the National Conference of Christians and Jews, the New York Foundation and the Eisenhower Foundation.

## Dr. Charles R. Drew

Charles R. Drew, an American physician, was noted for his research on blood plasma and was the originator of blood banks. Drew was born on June 3, 1904, in Washington, D.C. He graduated from Amherst College in 1926, and became athletic director, football coach and instructor in chemistry and biology at Morgan State College in Baltimore. Drew later was a professor of surgery and head of the Department of Surgery in the College of Medicine at Howard University, and medical director of Freeman's Hospital. On April 10, 1950, Drew died in an automobile accident.

## John H. Johnson

John H. Johnson, is the president of Johnson Publishing Company, Inc., the most prosperous Black publishing company in America. His company publishes Ebony, Jet, Black Star, Black World and Ebony Jr. magazines. He has received numerous awards, including the Horatio Alger Award, the NAACP Springarn Medal and the National Newspaper Publishers Association's Henry Johnson Fisher Award for outstanding contributions to publishing.

## Barbara Jordan

Barbara Jordan, was born February 21, 1936, in a predominantly Black low-income section of Houston. She went on to become a lawyer and political figure, achieving a series of "firsts" in her career. The Texas Democrat became the first Black to be elected to the Texas Senate since 1883 - and was also the first woman to be elected to that office. She held that post from 1966 to 1972. Elected Texas Senate President Pro Tempore in 1972, she became the first woman ever to preside over the legislative chamber. Jordan graduated Magna Cum Laude with a B.A. degree in history and political science from Texas Southern University. She earned a law degree from Boston University and returned to Houston to practice law before going into public service.

## Vernon E. Jordan

Vernon E. Jordan, Jr., is an American civil rights leader and lawyer. He is a partner in the Washington, D.C./Dallas, Texas, law firm of Akin, Gump, Strauss, Hauer & Feld. In 1972, he became president and chief executive officer of the National Urban League. He was one of the most visible and influential leaders of the Civil Rights movement of the 1960s. Jordan is on the board of directors of several major corporations including R.J. Reynolds Industries, American Express Company and Celanese Corporation.

## Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Martin Luther King, Jr., was the dominant force in the civil rights movement during the 1960s. For the work he had done to bring about better understanding of the ethnic groups in America, King received the Nobel Peace Prize in 1965 - becoming the third Black to receive the award. Through his policy of nonviolent protest, King was able to win the support of millions of Americans - Black and White. His leadership in demonstrations and peaceful marches was instrumental

in the passage of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Voting Rights Act of 1965. King's birthday, January 15, is recognized as a national holiday.

## Thurgood Marshall

Thurgood Marshall, in 1965, became the first Black associate justice of the Supreme Court of the United States, appointed by President Lyndon B. Johnson. Marshall was born July 2, 1908, in Baltimore. He graduated cum laude from Lincoln University in Pennsylvania and Magna Cum Laude from Howard University Law School. He served as Solicitor General of the United States for two years, before becoming associate justice.

## Rosa Parks

Rosa Parks stepped into history on December 1, 1955, in Montgomery, Ala., when she refused to give up her bus seat to a white passenger. She was arrested, jailed and tried.

The incident led to the year-long boycott of the Montgomery bus system by Blacks, who demanded an end to segregation on buses. The success of the boycott, which was led by Martin Luther King Jr., intensified the struggling civil rights movement. Parks, sometimes called "the mother of the civil rights movement," won the NAACP Springarn medal in 1979 for her contributions to civil rights. The Southern Christian Leadership Conference sponsors an annual Rosa Parks Freedom Award. She was born in Tuskegee, Ala., February 14, 1913, and grew up in Montgomery. She attended Alabama State College.

## Booker T. Washington

Booker T. Washington, was the most influential Black educator of his time in America. He became prominent as the founder and president of Tuskegee Institute, a vocational school for Blacks in Tuskegee, Ala. Presidents and Congressmen came to him for advice on racial policies. He played a major role in motivating Blacks on self-improvement through development of work skills. In a famous speech called "The Atlanta Compromise," Washington urged Blacks to accept segregation in exchange for economic advancement. He was criticized by more militant Blacks for his political philosophies and practices. His autobiography, *Up from Slavery*, describes his social theories and his ascent from slavery to world famous educator. Washington died in 1915.

## Carter G. Woodson

Carter G. Woodson, is known as the father of Black history and was responsible for making Black studies an academically respected field of study. Born in 1875, he grew up in abject poverty. He taught himself to read and write and did not receive formal education until his late teens. He graduated from high school in 1896 and taught school for the next 15 years while continuing graduate study. He earned B.A. and M.A. degrees from the University, and a Ph.D. from Harvard. Woodson is the author of numerous books on Black history. At the time of Woodson's death in 1950, he was editing a six-volume Encyclopedia Africana. Among his honors is the NAACP Springarn Medal, awarded in 1926.

## BLOLO BLA. FEMALE FIGURE

Baule, Ivory Coast  
Wood



The Baule believe that before people are born into this world they have a spouse in the other world, and that these spouses occasionally become angry or jealous and disturb the lives of their living partners. When this happens, a diviner recommends that an altar be established where the spirit may receive offerings and be appeased. The carved figure of the "spirit spouse" should be beautiful in order to please the spirit and attract it to the shrine. The female "spirit spouse" figure shown here expresses Baule ideas of physical beauty and moral virtue. The erect bearing indicates a morally upright person; the open eyes and high forehead suggest intelligence and lucidity. The hands held obediently at the sides and the modest stance of the feet give the figure a respectful attitude that shows good character. Physical perfection is shown in the healthy body, the strong neck able to bear heavy loads on the head, and the muscular calves of the hard worker. The pointed breasts and rounded buttocks signify maturity and sexual attractiveness, and thus the promise of children.

*Gift of Dona and Lee Bronson, 1978.46.18*



## George Washington Carver

Scientist. Educator. Humanitarian.

George Washington Carver spent his life in a selfless search for the secrets of God's growing things. He asked nothing for himself. He gave his discoveries to mankind.

An agricultural chemist, Carver used his knowledge in a practical way which profoundly affected the lives and fortunes of both black and white in the deep South, and in the entire nation.

Carver spread the gospel of crop rotation, taught the uneducated the virtues of proper diet, and instructed them how to plow deep and farm scientifically.

But most important, he helped unseat "King Cotton" as the tyrant of the one-crop South. Carver coaxed farmers into planting peanuts, sweet potatoes, and soybeans as money crops. Then he turned to his laboratory at Alabama's all-Negro Tuskegee Institute and discovered hundreds of uses for them.

From the peanut, Carver never patented a single discovery.

"God gave them to me," he would say. "How can I sell them to someone else?"

Though he won the friendship of Presidents Theodore Roosevelt, William McKinley, and Calvin Coolidge, and of industrialists like Henry Ford, Carver always had time for any dirt farmer who knocked on his door for help.

Carver was born a slave in Diamond Grove, Missouri (now a national monument) about 1860. When he was only a few weeks old, he and his mother were kidnapped by night raiders who gave Carver away, but sold his mother farther south.

Carver's master got him back, raised him and at the end of the Civil War set him free. Carver stayed at Diamond Grove until he was 10. Then he left to seek an education.

A sickly youth, handicapped by a stutter, Carver overcame bitter and frustrating obstacles and finally worked his way through high school.

Turned away when he attempted to enter college, Carver eventually found a school which would

accept him. He enrolled at the age of 30 as a freshman at Simpson College, Indianola, Iowa.

Carver did well, earning his keep doing the laundry of his more fortunate classmates, and in 1891 transferred to Iowa State College of Agriculture (now Iowa State University) at Ames.

He earned his Bachelor's degree, then a Master's in bacterial botany and agriculture and finally a faculty post at the college. But he was vaguely discontented. God's plan, Carver felt, called for him to help his people.

In 1896, Carver joined the staff of Tuskegee Institute. He spent the rest of his life there, shinning job offers from industry which would have made him wealthy. He died at Tuskegee in 1943. Carver's epitaph best sums up his life:

He could have added fortune to fame, but caring for neither, he found happiness and honor in being helpful to the world.

## BLACK HISTORY MONTH 1994

These are treacherous times in the African American community. Rage has twisted inward; frustration has shifted towards despair. The grounds for alarm are many and multiplying and the route to deliverance seems hopelessly blocked.

Whole sections of the African American working class have been dumped through the bottom of a predatory economy -- globalized out to the peripheral edges of post-industrial capitalism and there deprived of the means and conditions to sustain themselves with dignity. Forty years after Brown vs. Board of Education and twenty years after the initiation of busing to achieve school integration, public schools are more segregated than ever and less able to deliver quality education. African Americans remain far more likely than whites to suffer from AIDS, hypertension, infant mortality, breast cancer and a host of other ills. Violence has so saturated some inner-city communities that youngsters of thirteen and fourteen make detailed plans for their own funerals. Meanwhile, solutions to the entrenchment of criminal behavior -- by which the African American community is itself most grievously victimized -- seem permanently stuck in the patently unproductive rut of more police, more prisons, more punitive sentencing.

While the roster of problems is nearly overwhelming, the capacity of African American leadership to provide the breadth of vision and strategic leadership necessary to forge a way forward has not been made manifest. To be sure, organizers, activists and elected officials across the country struggle hard every day to combat discrimination, mentor the youth, and improve the health and welfare of the Black community. But for the moment, the mismatch between the depth of the problems and the barely detectable political momentum towards radical

change is stark and profound.

In this African American History Month issue of CrossRoads, the lead article by Clarence Lusane addresses the current challenges that face Black leadership -- both in terms of concrete political strategy and in terms of providing the kind of moral vision that would inspire the African-American community to sustained social action.

Lusane brings us a thoughtful analysis of the elements that must go into the creation of a Black Agenda. His articulation of the principles and values to be embraced by African American leadership provides a strong basis for furthering the discussion of "which way forward."

During the past year, African American communities in many areas of the country have grappled with issues arising from the gay and lesbian rights movement. Homophobia within the African American community has been challenged as lesbian and gay activists assert their right to be both out of the closet and in the community. Kenya Briggs explores some of the conflicts that have characterized the debate among African Americans over gays and lesbians in the military and other points of controversy. African American activists have long drawn insights and inspiration from activists of African descent in other parts of the world. In this issue, Mabie Settlege reports on

a trip to Brazil and the grassroots anti-racist activism of the favelas. Even in the bleakest of times, our authentic humanity is reflected back to us in creative works that are so true, they hurt and heal at the same moment. Toni Morrison's words can settle on us like a balm or sear through to the places we're afraid to touch. Barbara Christian contributes an appreciation of this wisest of women on the occasion of her winning the Nobel Prize for literature.

In this increasingly inter-connected world, the African American struggle is more closely tied than ever to freedom fights all over the globe, and especially to other struggles within this hemisphere. So we're enthusiastic about including in this issue Arnoldo García's comment "After NAFTA: North and South Need a New Beginning," Elizabeth Martínez's report on "Mexico: The Storm Before the Storm," and Daniel Hellinger's analysis of the recent Venezuelan elections. The African American passion for freedom may be temporarily subdued, but it is bound to be rekindled. When it is, we may be sure that the ever-unfinished business of seeking justice will be placed firmly back at the center of the nation's agenda. And on our cover, the face of Fannie Lou Hamer to remind us that astute, committed and incorruptible Black leadership is even now maturing in our midst.

**NEXT WEEK  
ASPARTAME  
"AKA"  
NUTRASWEET**



### ERE IBEJI. TWIN FIGURES

Yoruba, Nigeria

Wood, beads and brass necklaces

Among the Yoruba, twins (*ibeji*) are special children whose birth can bless their parents with good fortune. The Yoruba have one of the highest rates of twin births in the world, and the loss of twins is therefore considered a great misfortune. If a twin dies, the mother commissions a memorial figure (two if both twins die), and the soul of the deceased twin is transferred to it. The mother dresses the statuette in cloth and adorns it with jewelry, and keeps it near her bed. She also offers it food and prayers weekly and performs more elaborate rituals on the occasion of birthdays and annual festivals. The figures are carved according to different regional styles; those shown here are made according to the Abeokuta style. The statuettes conform to the Yoruba aesthetics of physical proportion. The head is one third the size of the body, because the head is associated with a person's destiny or "inner head," which determines success and failure in life. Artistic emphasis is placed on "human resemblance," rather than photographic likeness, and the facial features, though stylized, are carefully delineated and delicate. The smoothed surface, which is difficult to achieve without sandpaper, expresses the desired quality of luminosity. Other Yoruba aesthetic qualities are relative straightness, good composition, youthful appearance, and clarity of line.

Lent by Benjamin Ray



### The African Mask

Museum of African American History Detroit, Michigan

In traditional African tribal ceremonies, masks play a vital role in the religious and social structure of the traditional community. It is believed that spirits inhabit the mask, that the mask is sacred and invokes a reverence and adherence to authority. To violate a law related to the mask is to invoke the strictest punishment by the community, sometimes even death.

Male Ceremonial Mask - Zaire;

This mask was held in front of the face by men during festivals. A raffia body covering would be worn along with the mask at joyful celebrations such as a wedding, a harvest feast or the birth of a child.



## Classified Ads

**Word Processing, typing services,** {Resumes, term papers, reports, etc..} At very reasonable rate. Also On - Campus pick - up and delivery..{A - 126/ALPS' office} Call Finline Processing : {705} 673-0212 {Please leave message Monday-Friday} Email: olyrra@vianet.on.ca {anytime} Fax: (705) 688-1990

**"Adoption? Pregnant? Warm, Loving, infertile couple anxious to adopt and provide a home for your child. Legal and confidential.**  
Call Mike/Donna collect (416) 261-9134

**LSAT - MCAT -GMAT- GRE PREP** - Spring/Summer classes are now forming. Course formats range from 20 - 80 hours. 20 hour weekends are available for \$195. Richardson - Since 1979 -  
www.prep.com or prep@istar.ca or 1-800-410-PREP

**Term Papers, Reports. Etc. - Save Time! Professional Word Processing and Resume Service at Reasonable Rates! Enquire about pick-up/delivery service. Call Gail at 692-9400, Monday to Saturday 8:30 am - 8:30 pm.**

### Summer Camp Jobs in the U.S.A.

#### Visas Arranged

Lakeside Residential Girls Camp in Maine

**Service workers.** Office, maintenance, kitchen (including assistant chef), driving. Visas for service jobs restricted to students enrolled in university for fall of '97.

**Counselors.** Combined child care/teaching. Swim, sail, canoe, equestrian, field sports, tennis, archery, gymnastics, dance, arts, music, theater, wilderness trips. Visas for counselor jobs available to all qualified applicants.

Non-smokers. June 21 to Aug 26. Send resume (C.V.): Kippewa, Box 307, Westwood, Massachusetts 02090-0307 USA; kippewa@tiac.net; voice (617) 762-8291; fax (617) 255-7167.

## Announcements

**Residence Vacancies,**  
Huntington College Residence has vacancies for Males and Females, Available immediately. (January 23, 1997)

If interested, please call 673-4126 or come to room 101 at Huntington College. Thank You.

**THE FOLLOWING  
AWARDS ARE STILL  
AVAILABLE FOR THE  
1996-97 ACADEMIC  
YEAR**



**APPLICATION FORMS AVAILABLE  
IN  
THE STUDENT AWARDS OFFICE**

**DEADLINE - February 7, 1997**

La Bourse d'études de l'Association du personnel administratif et professionnel de l'Université Laurentienne

Cette bourse, d'une valeur de 750 \$, est décernée à un étudiant ou une étudiante en toute année d'un programme de premier cycle qui a obtenu de bonnes notes et a manifesté des qualités de leadership. Le candidat ou la candidate doit avoir fait une contribution appréciable à la communauté Laurentienne. Il faut présenter une demande accompagnée d'un exposé expliquant en détail la contribution de l'étudiant ou de l'étudiante à la communauté Laurentienne. La date limite est le 24 janvier 1996.

La Bourse de la Famille Wallace

Cette bourse de 500 \$ est décernée à un étudiant ou une étudiante qui s'inscrit en deuxième année à l'École de génie ou à l'École de commerce et d'administration.

Elle est attribuée à celui ou celle qui a le plus amélioré son rendement scolaire entre la fin des études secondaires (6 CPD/DESO) ou l'équivalent et la moyenne obtenue à la fin de la première année à l'Université Laurentienne.

Cette bourse comprend un emploi d'été chez Pioneer Construction Inc. à la fin de la deuxième année. Il faut présenter une demande.

The Laurentian University Administrative and Professional Staff Association Scholarship

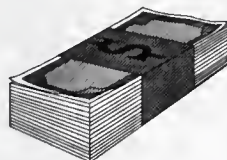
The scholarship, valued at \$750 will be awarded to a student in any year of an undergraduate program on the basis of academic standing and demonstrated leadership qualities. The applicant must have made a significant contribution to the Laurentian Community. Application is required and must be submitted with a profile detailing the student's contribution to the Laurentian community.

The Wallace Family Scholarship

Valued at \$500 and awarded to a student entering second year of the School of Engineering or the School of Commerce and Administration. The scholarship will be awarded to the student having demonstrated the greatest improvement in academic standing from the completion of an Ontario secondary school (6 OAC/OSSD) or its equivalent to the average obtained at the end of first year at Laurentian University.

This award includes a summer work term with Pioneer Construction Inc. at the completion of year two. Application is required.

**DOWN ON YOUR LUCK,  
NEED THAT EXTRA BUCK?**



**THE FOLLOWING BURSARIES ARE STILL  
AVAILABLE FOR THE  
1996-97 ACADEMIC YEAR**

**APPLICATION FORMS AVAILABLE  
IN THE STUDENT AWARDS OFFICE**

**DEADLINE IS FEBRUARY 7, 1997**

The Dr. Faustina Kelly-Cook Memorial Bursary - \$350 - preferably to a std entering final year of Post R.N. Nursing program with leadership qualities

The Donna Lynch Memorial Awards - 2 @ \$250 - 3rd or 4th year nursing, preference to stds who have demonstrated a commitment of community health nursing

The Darcy Noelle Kemp Memorial Award - \$200 - financial need, 4th year B.A. in Social Sciences

The Lions Club of Sudbury Bursary - \$1000 - financial need, 1st year student from Municipality of Sudbury

The Dowling Horseshoe Club Bursary - \$1250 - 1st year student from Sudbury area - preferably a resident of Dowling, any program

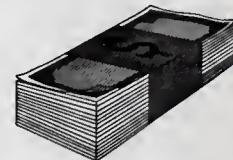
The Karen Blackford Bursary - \$300 - female full-time or part-time mature student entering 3rd year of Social Sciences program with demonstrated leadership qualities. Preference to students committed to working in Northern Ontario

The Sudbury YWCA Bursary - \$250 - mature female student in any year of any program. Preference to students whose program of study relates to the topic of Violence Against Women.

Applicants should include a short profile detailing any involvement in the community or school and/or extra-curricular activities.

**NOTE: UNLESS OTHERWISE SPECIFIED ALL BURSARIES ARE FOR FULL-TIME STUDIES.**

**AVEZ-VOUS DES PROBLÈMES D'ARGENT  
POUVONS-NOUS VOUS DÉPANNER?**



**LES BOURSES SUIVANTES SONT  
ENCORE DISPONIBLES - VOUS POUVEZ  
OBTENIR UN FORMULAIRE AU BUREAU DE L'AIDE FINANCIÈRE  
DATE LIMITE EST LE 7 FÉVRIER 1997**

La Bourse commémorative Dr. Faustina Kelly-Cook - 350\$ - de préférence à un étudiant(e) qui entreprend la dernière année du programme à l'entention des infirmières autorisées en tenant compte des besoins pécuniaires et des qualités de leadership

Les Bourses commémoratives Donna Lynch - 2 @ 250\$ - 3e ou 4e année en sciences infirmières, de préférence aux étudiants ayant démontré un intérêt pour les services de santé communautaire.

La Bourse commémorative Darcy Noelle Kemp - 200\$ - besoin financier, 4e année en sciences sociales

La Bourse d'aide du Club Lions de Sudbury - 1000\$ - besoin financier, étudiant de 1e année de la Municipalité de Sudbury

Bourse de début d'études du Dowling Horseshoe Club - 1250\$ - besoin financier, étudiant de 1e année de la Municipalité de Sudbury, préférentiellement à un étudiant de Dowling

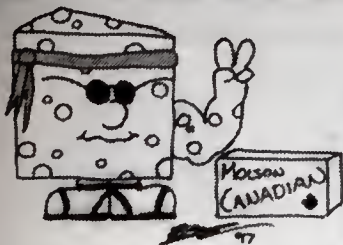
La Bourse Karen Blackford - 300\$ - besoin financier, une étudiante s'inscrivant à plein temps ou à une étudiante adulte s'inscrivant à temps partiel à la 3e année du programme de baccalauréat ès arts en sciences sociales et la démonstration de qualités de chef. La préférence sera accordée aux personnes qui s'engagent à travailler dans le Nord-Ontario.

Bourse du YWCA de Sudbury - 250\$ - besoin financier, étudiante adulte de tout programme. La préférence sera accordée aux personnes dont le programme d'études traite de la violence faite aux femmes.

Les candidats doivent présenter un bref profil décrivant leur intérêts ou leur travail à la communauté ou l'université et/ou activités parascolaires.

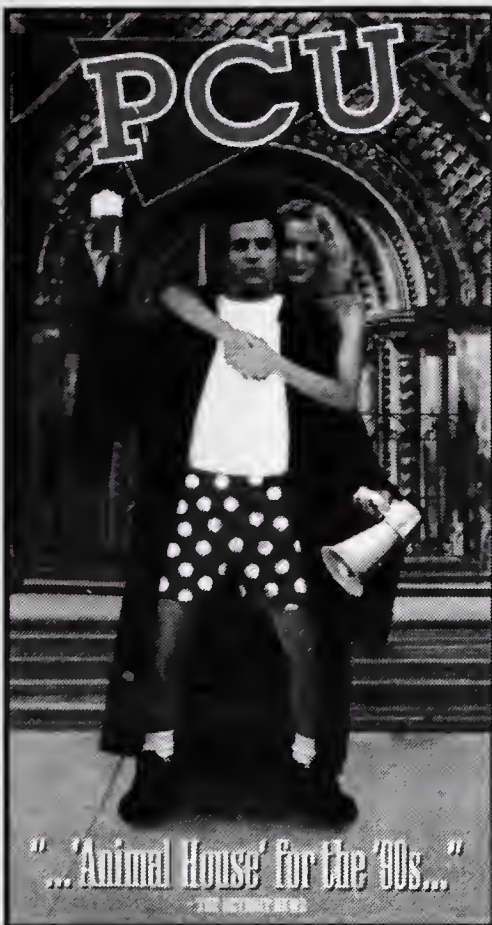
**À NOTER: À MOINS D'INDICATION CONTRAIRE, LES BOURSES MENTIONNÉES CI-HAUT SONT POUR LES ÉTUDES À PLEIN TEMPS.**





by Mat Thompson  
Staff Writer

## Attack of the Cheese



This week's cheese is a little known release from a few years ago called PCU. This is an amazingly hilarious movie that everyone should watch. It's basically a cheesy, updated version of the classic National Lampoon's Animal House.

The story starts off about a pre-frosh visiting Port Chester University for a weekend tour. He is matched up with Jeremy Piven (Ellen's Spence) who is basically the leader of a group of misfits who reside in The Pit. The whole university has sectioned off into politically correct groups who seem to take PC a little too far. The pre-frosh manages to piss off every group while The Pit tries to pull off the first all campus keg party to raise enough money to keep The Pit as their home. Sure, this may sound a little confusing, but all you have to remember when watching this movie is that everyone in the world loves George Clinton!

The cheese just oozes from the start to the finish of this flick. David Spade also stars as a little

by playing a game of Frisbee football. Of course all they can concentrate on is the spinning colors of the Frisbee. There are other great scenes including The Pit tossing about 200 lbs of raw ground meat onto a vegetarian rally, and the ultimate cut down of phys-ed majors near the end of the movie. If you are in, or know someone majoring in phys-ed (or even SPAD), you have to laugh at this scene.

This movie is a great satire of the over sensitization that is happening in universities today. Sure, everything has to be PC nowadays, but this movie shows how it is just taken way too far. Cheese fans, you have to watch this movie! Come on, you can make a night of it renting it with National

annoying prep who lives in an underground frat who hates The Pit. His character is his usual annoying, smart mouthed little prick that he plays so well. All the characters are hilarious in this movie, but the most memorable are Gutter and his hippie, pot headed friends. In one scene, the pot heads are doing their intramural final

Lampoon's Animal House, and Dazed and Confused. Just remember, leave your brain at the door and crack open a case of beer. These movies are the ultimate university movies! University is the ultimate cheese factory, and these movies show us just how strange it is.

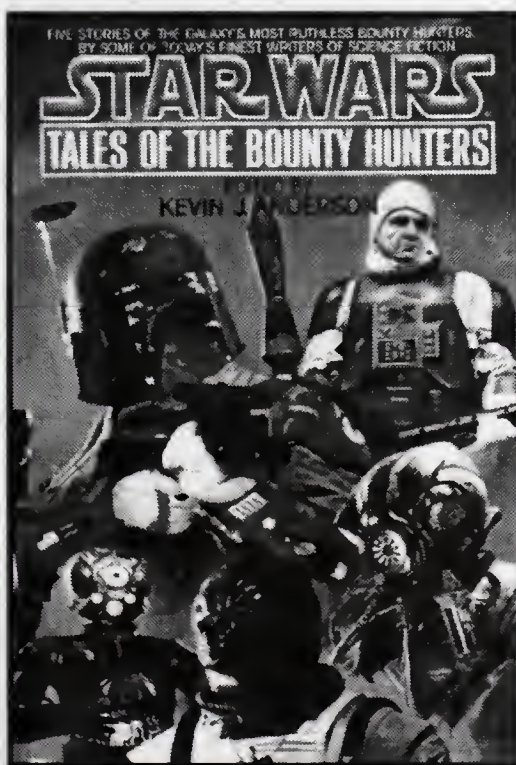
## Critic in the Bookshelves

by Mat Thompson  
Staff Writer

Well, I have moved into the Sci-Fi section of the bookshelves, and I am actually enjoying it. For those of you who are Star Wars fans (which is basically anyone who is breathing), you should pick up a few of the new novels. There are about 25 novels right now, and they are coming out fast. There are different story lines to follow, but they are all based on the characters we have all come to love. Here are a few of the novels and stories that are on the shelves right now:

**Tales of the Bounty Hunters** - This book is great for fans of the dark side of Star Wars. The novel is a collection of five stories centering around IG-88, Dengar, Bossk, and the ultimate Boba Fete. The stories center around the hunt for Han Solo, and even one about the hunt for Wookiee pelts. This is a great starter novel to see if you like to read new stories for Star Wars.

**Shadows of the Empire** - This novel is set in the time span between Empire and Return of the Jedi. It centers



around the Black Sun galaxy where Xidor (Darth Vader's chief rival for the head of the empire) rules. There are many new characters as interesting, or even better than those of Star Wars. Dash Rendar is the hero of the story, but it's a great book, centering mostly on the dark side of the Empire.

**Tales From the Mos Eisley Cantina** and **Tales From Jabba's Palace** in which many lesser characters get their own main story line. Fans of Star Wars should enjoy these novels as much as I have. Star Wars will never die, and with the novels being released, the stories will go on forever.

Most of the stories follow the continuation of the story of Luke, Han and Leia. Han and Leia of course get married and have twins who become the new Rebel hopes for peace. The story lines veer off into The X-Wing Trilogy which is the stories of the different fighter pilots, The Jedi Academy Trilogy in which Luke trains new recruits the way Yoda and Obi-Wan did in the past.

Almost every one of your favourite characters show up somewhere in these novels. There are also

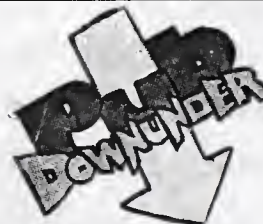
**Our Photo Editor is not very happy because she has no friends. If you are interested in becoming a photographer, or just her friend call Andie at 673-6548 or stop by the office at SCE 301.**

## Kraft Dinner Recipe of the Week Cheesy Chicken Stir-Fry

Ingredients: 1 box Kraft Dinner (spirals or normal)  
Boneless, Skinless Chicken Breasts  
1 Onion  
Green and Red Peppers  
Fresh Cut Mushrooms

Directions: Make KD according to directions on side of box. Once completed, put the KD into the refrigerator to cool it off. Heat up a stir fry pan on the stove and add a small amount of oil. Cut the chicken breasts into strips and place into pan. Once the chicken has started to cook, add in onions, peppers and mushrooms. When the stir-fry is close to being complete, spoon on the cold KD from the refrigerator and cook until chicken is done.

This stir-fry can be served as a main course or a side dish with your dinner. Serve hot, or reheated as leftovers. This recipe will make a good amount of food so be ready for leftovers or have a hearty appetite when making.



Because things  
really are different  
Downunder!

COMING SOON!!!

Coming Soon!  
Friday, February 7 from 4 -6 pm  
Laurentian University  
Jazz Ensemble live in the Pub.

Friday, February 8pm - Karaoke  
Night (Following Curling Bonspiel)  
Stay Tuned For More Live Band INFO

FREE POOL EVERY FRIDAY NIGHT!

## Attention All Laurentian Students

Stop traveling down that busy Ramsey Lake Road on a snowy day. Rooms are available on campus for the second term. Contact the Laurentian Residence Office at ext. 3007 to find out how you can have the convenience of living on campus.

## Aux étudiantes et étudiants de la Laurentienne

Finis le va et vient sur le chemin enneigé du lac Ramsey. Il y a des chambres libres sur le campus pour le deuxième semestre. Communiquez avec le Bureau des résidences de la Laurentienne, poste 3007, pour en savoir plus sur le privilège de vivre sur le campus.



## This Week At Cinefest

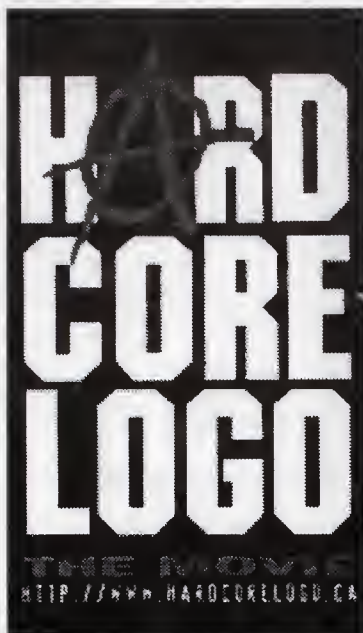
Check out these movies on the Cinescreen all week long at the City Centre Cinemas at 7:00 pm unless otherwise noted. They are wonderful movies that should not be missed. Instead of seeing the usual Hollywood junk, try your hand at something a little more cultured (and cheaper, the movies are only \$6.00 a person.)

**Thursday, January 30th to Saturday, February 1st**  
Helena Bonham Carter, Ben Kingsley and Nigel Hawthorne are cast in the convoluted, genderswitching screen adaptation of Shakespeare's most famous comedy, *Twelfth Night*. If you liked Priscilla and Too Wong Foo and the Birdage, you will love the Shakespearean equivalent. You might call it the granddaddy of cross dressing.

**Sunday, February 2nd to Monday, February 3rd**  
Yes, we know you were waiting with baited breath for the return of Bruce McDonald's third rock 'n roll road flick and here it is, for two days only is *Hard Core Logo*. It is a compelling, funny and poignant riff on rock 'n roll movies and it must not be missed!

**Tuesday, February 4th to Wednesday, February 5th**  
Anyone who has seen Steve Buscemi in his infamous roles in *Reservoir Dogs* and *Fargo* will realize just how talented this actor is. He makes his directorial debut in *Trees Lounge* where he plays a ne'er do well barfly who is "reduced" to driving an ice cream truck and flirting with his 17 year old niece. This comedic performance is not to be missed and it is here for two days only....

Keep your eyes peeled for the upcoming films on the Cinescreen: *Palookaville*, *Crash* and *Ridicule*.



# EVITA

by Tara D'Angelo  
Staff Writer

For the longest time, I was convinced that Madonna felt it necessary to act only in movies that were absolutely terrible as a way for the audience to focus on how good her singing abilities are. Then I saw *Evita*.

*Evita* is directed by Alan Parker and stars Madonna as the beloved Eva Peron, Antonio Banderas as the mysterious storyteller Che and Jonathan Pryce as Argentinean President Juan Peron. It tells the life story of one of Argentina's most beloved political figures, country girl Eva Duarte Peron, an illegitimate farmer's daughter turned actress turned social activist. The major events in her life shape

her into an almost god-like figure who is loved by the poor and working poor and hated by the aristocracy. At the age of seven, she and her siblings



are refused access to her father's funeral. This instills in her a hatred for the middle class, a hatred which she carries with her for the rest of her life. As a teenager, she attaches herself to a tango singer named Agustin Magaldi, played by British actor/singer/writer Jimmy Nail who agrees to take her to the big city of Buenos Aires. While there, she quickly moves into the

high society of Buenos Aires as a radio personality and film actress. Her life changes again when she meets Juan Peron, a rising politician. Their names are quickly linked and the Establishment voices its disapproval almost immediately, as well as the military. Peron runs in the free election and wins, with the inspirational Eva at his side. She is an ardent supporter of Peronism and travels to Europe on her "Rainbow Tour" where she wins over the leaders of Europe. At home, she forms the Eva Peron Foundation and works tirelessly to help ease the suffering of the poor. She, along with the Peronist Women's Party (another one of Eva's creations), attained the women's right to vote. She is nominated as Vice Presidential candidate, an honour she refuses because she is also tragically diagnosed with uterine cancer.

This movie was absolutely incredible. Madonna sounds better than ever in her role, a role many feel she was born to play. Banderas, a guy I never realized could sing, was outstanding and Pryce, the British actor and Broadway star, was very convincing as the President. Rumor has it that many popular Hollywood actresses were up for the role of Eva, such as Michelle Pfeiffer and Meryl Streep, but I highly doubt they would have made the emotional impact that Madonna made. She has taken us through controversy after controversy but you have to admit, she is still one of the greatest female vocalists of all time as well as being a shrewd businesswoman and, most recently, a mom. You can say what you want about the image she puts up, but you have to respect her for all of the hard work she has done to get herself where she is today.

I feel I must warn people, though, the movie is entirely done to music so anyone expecting snappy dialogue is out of luck. However, this movie will make you laugh, make you cry and make you want to stand up and cheer. You won't just watch *Evita*, you will experience it.

# EVITA



You saw it here first!! Here is a new, digitally enhanced scene from *Star Wars*, The Special Edition with Jabba the Hutt and Han Solo meeting outside the Millennium Falcon. The scene was not used in the original because there was a lack of technology. Now, twenty years later, voila!! *Star Wars* will be re-released on January 31st, 1997.

### SPRING BREAK '97

**Panama City Beach**



WITHOUT TRANSPORTATION \$149.00  
WITH TRANSPORTATION \$329.00

- High quality hotels for 7 great nights.
- Optional R/T motor coach.
- Free deck parties/activities.
- Free I.D./Discount card.
- Full time on-location staff.
- All taxes & service charges included.

For Information & Reservations:

### Got the Winter Blues?

What would you do for a free trip to Panama City or Daytona Beach Florida for Spring Break 1997?

Submit a short description of your crazy stunt and you may be on your way to the sunny beaches of Florida!

P.S. Here's the catch, you have to perform your stunt to win!!!  
P.S.S. We're not kidding.

Bring your entries to the Lambda office before January 27, 1997 with your name and phone number. If we're not here just slip your entry under the door.

Inter-campus programs  
50 Wellington St. N.  
Hamilton, ON  
L8R 1N1  
reg# 4037321/r

To book your trip and further information please call Richard at 675 - 0083 or E-Mail him at S5300210@nickel.laurentian.ca

### SPRING BREAK '97

**Daytona Beach**



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## LEND ME AN EAR



### Lenni Jabour - Lenni Jabour

by Remi Gunn  
Staff Writer

When I first heard this album, I heard the influences and not the music. I heard the emotional vocals of Sarah McLachlan. I heard Tori Amos' hypnotic piano orchestration and bare bones approach. In short, I heard everything but Lenni Jabour. It was only when I played the album a second time that I began to hear the true musician seeping through. It's true that this album does owe a lot to Tori Amos and Sarah McLachlan (not to mention Jane Siberry), but it is Lenni Jabour that is able to harness these influences and create an exceptionally powerful, well-crafted album.

The album starts off with a powerhouse. *Cruel and Unusual* is, in a word, intense. It combines powerful lyrics with a delicate, rolling piano score, creating one of the most memorable songs I've heard in a long time. The rest of the album follows suit, sweeping the listener away with her beautiful tales of love and despair.

The only problem I have with this album is that, with only eight songs, it is too short. Aside from this minor fault, it is a must have album.



as how it fit my budget (it cost about \$5.50), I decided to pick it up. The album was *fireman* and it blew me away the first time I heard it. With its fiery guitars and catchy lyrics, the album quickly became one of my favourites.

About two years later hHead released their second album, *Jerk*. This album was a disappointment. Shedding their indie background for a spot with EMI Music Canada, the band seemed to falter. The urgency and ferocity of *fireman* had been replaced with sugary sweet made-for-radio morsels that just didn't do justice to this Toronto-area trio.

After another two year wait, the band has just released their third album, *Ozzy*. Having left the bright lights of the corporate labels behind, hHead has returned to their indie roots, recording *Ozzy* under the handsome boy label. This album, though still not equaling *fireman*, is at least a move in the right direction.

The songs on this album are generally low-key and fairly mellow. Sticking to the basic power pop format, hHead seems to have regained some integrity in their move from the big label to the indie market. They have also, for better or worse, left the heavy distortion of *fireman* behind for good. The songs are interesting, catchy and well-done.

*Ozzy* is a very good album. I can't exactly go so far as to call it a great album, but at least it got rid of the bad taste in my mouth I had after listening to *Jerk*.



### jeff lang - native dog creek

by Remi Gunn  
Staff Writer

This album, by Australian Jeff Lang, is as easy to forget as it is easy to listen to. And it is easy to listen to. It's just not so easy to understand why some one would want to listen to this album. Comprising eleven quirky folk/country songs, this album is predominantly mainstream and unoriginal.

The album does have some potential, though. With Lang playing the dobro, electric and acoustic guitars (with some slide licks thrown in for good measure), and Hammond

pedals, among other instruments, this album could have been a showcase of versatility and musical prowess. Unfortunately, any pretense of musical excellence is quickly stifled by mediocre songwriting and a half-hearted performance.

In short, *native dog creek* is a nice album that just doesn't make the grade.



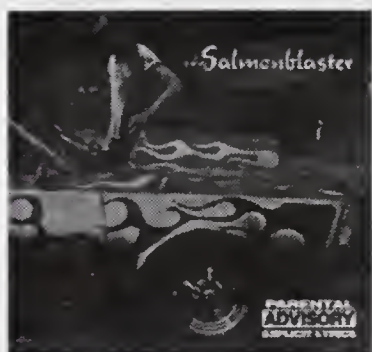
### Pig - Sinsation

by Remi Gunn  
Staff Writer

This album, released on Trent Reznor's Nothing label, is about what you would expect after looking at the liner notes. With its pictures of human and pig body parts and close-up shots of scars and stapled flesh, it's not hard to assume that this is going to be another scary (in his own mind) person trying to shock you with dark lyrics and loud noises. If you can't make the connection between scars and supposedly scary people, don't worry. It's there. Just look at Marilyn Manson.

For those of you who are into industrial music, there is some connection between this Pig guy and KMFDM (apparently he is/was the lead singer). As far as I'm concerned, that's an unfortunate coincidence. At least KMFDM is cool. Pig is, quite frankly, not all that cool.

At times this album sounds like late-eighties Metallica with samples and a drum machine. On other tracks, it is just plain industrial music. In either case, the album lacks originality and purpose. It is just another meaningless dirge of fairly lame industrial music and self-indulgent vocals. The only possible audience this album could have is the die-hard KMFDM fan attempting to collect all KMFDM-related music.



### Salmonblaster - Salmonblaster

by Remi Gunn  
Staff Writer

About the best thing I can say about Salmonblaster is that they are average. Completely average. Average to the point of being boring. Sticking to mainstream grunge, this is an album that might have been cool in '92, but not now. The fact that this trio from Waterloo seems to be playing their own version of Nirvana's greatest hits does nothing to enhance the lacklustre quality of this cd.

The only thing that might be considered almost original is Salmonblaster's use of cheesy eighties sound effects over top of the music. Though this occasionally gives you the feeling that you might be listening to a Rush song, it still does not rescue this album from mediocrity.

Aside from the fact that they seem to be copying other bands' music, there is another, less apparent, flaw with this album. Most of the songs seem to follow a pattern that makes the music somewhat boring. Salmonblaster doesn't stray far from the slow introduction / powerful climax formula, a formula that loses its power quickly with repetition.

If you want to hear boring, early-nineties grunge rock, this album might be for you. If not, there is no good reason why you should buy this album.



### Our Lady Peace - Clumsy

by Mat Thompson  
Staff Writer

All I can say is, I am very surprised that I like this album. Two years ago I went to a Van Halen

concert in Detroit and Our Lady Peace was the opening act. Sure, most people would think this would be a great concert, but Our Lady Peace was one of the worst bands I had ever seen live. Maybe it was an off night for the band, but they really sucked! All that aside, their newest recording, *Clumsy*, is a good album.

The first release, *Supermans Dead*, has been playing on radios for about 3 weeks now. This song, along with the other ten, are a great collection of Canadian alternative rock. I have talked to fans of their first album *Naveed*, and they have told me this is a far superior album.

If you are not a fan of Our Lady, don't rush out to get this album. Borrow it from someone and see if you like it, this band is not for everyone. For fans of the band, and this style of music, *Clumsy* is an excellent album.



### MAde - Bedazzler

by Mat Thompson  
Staff Writer

The first album by the group MAde is to be released this week in record stores. This 3 song CD sampler was sent to me and it is cool. Only hearing the songs *Hairdown*, *Smudge*, and *Fun of You*, I can honestly say the album *Bedazzler* is going to be an excellent alterna rock release.

The band's sound is reminiscent of one of those great bar bands that you come across every once in a while. This is not the typical, I hate everyone, the world is against me, Alanis crap. The songs are up beat and great to listen to without being sent into a state of depression. I strongly recommend finding this album and giving it a chance.

### hHead - Ozzy

by Remi Gunn  
Staff Writer

About five years ago I was wandering in the HMV store in downtown Toronto. I was looking for something new to listen to that wouldn't cost me much (I was down to my last six dollars). I wandered past the Indie section and stopped. There, in the centre of the rack, was an album by a band named hHead. I had never heard of them before. Seeing



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## Women's Intramural Hockey

by Josh Dean and John Thompson  
Contributors

The women's intramural hockey league is now underway. It got off to an explosive start, with the first games being high scoring affairs for one team. There was also some great goaltending, resulting in four shut-outs in the first two nights. After the first two weeks of the season we have a close race for first and third.

Standings (as of January 24'th)

Team	GP	W	L	GF	GA	PTS
Off-Campus	2	2	0	16	0	4
Hawks "1"	2	2	0	17	2	4
Hawks "2"	2	2	0	9	0	4
Playgirls	2	2	0	10	3	4
Dirty Birds	2	1	1	10	4	2
SSR	2	1	1	1	9	2
Brat Pack	1	0	1	3	7	0
Fallen Angels	2	0	2	0	10	0
Stokers	2	0	2	0	9	0
Flying Nuns	3	0	3	3	22	0

by Bryson McCarthy  
Columnist

This little extraring challenge comes from my first trip to a Sudbury Wolves game.

On Friday, January 24 I saw the Wolves get trashed by the Peterborough Petes 5-2. The loss was not upsetting since neither team was from my home town. My problem comes from the Wolves mascot, Howler.

Most mascots of teams have at least a little team spirit. Throughout the whole game, I noticed Howler just standing around doing nothing.

Children were going up to Howler for autographs and half the time he did not notice, or just plain ignored them. There were two times when he got up on the boards and did

## Get In The Ring

**\*\*Sports Extra\*\***

a pathetically short dance whenever the Wolves scored. Hell, the little stuffed wolf that hung from the rafters was more exciting than Howler.

Sure the job may get boring when your team is losing, but a little enthusiasm would help. The crowd was dead that night, and a good mascot probably could have got the crowd going a little more.

The only time the crowd really moved was during the fights (there were many that night) and when they had to go get food. This is a live sporting event, people should be excited. I know it's not all Howler's fault, but he is there to entertain and pump up the crowd. I would love to be one of the mascots for a sports team. It's a job for a



person with lots of energy who loves to have fun.

I know a lot of people out there love Howler, but all I can say is he needs to do a little more for the crowd.

Get excited. Dance, play with the crowd or just annoy the other team. Come on Howler, the kids love you, get off you butt...or get in the ring.

## "Twoonie" Ski Races

Come support the Nordic Vees and race under the lights every Wednesday night. For a "twoonie" you get a race, a time and a hot drink (think green and bring your own mug). This event is open to everyone, regardless of age or ability. There will be races of various lengths, techniques and combinations.

Registration takes place at 6:30 pm at the stadium. Races start at 7:00 pm. For more info, call Shirley at 522-7577.

## OCAA Basketball Notes

After less than three full weeks of play, there are no unbeaten or winless teams in the West Division of the OCAA Basketball League. The Brock Badgers and Lakehead Nor'Westers split a pair of close contests in Thunder Bay to both reach the victory column for the first time. Friday, Carlo Zoffraneri scored 22 points as the home team prevailed 59-58 while, on Saturday, the Badgers returned the favour with a 70-65 victory.

The Guelph Gryphons fell from the unbeaten ranks Saturday as the McMaster Marauders avenged an earlier defeat, downing the Gryphons 65-46 behind a 22 point effort from Titus Channer. Guelph and Western lead the division at 3-1 while the Marauders are 3-2.

The Laurentian Voyageurs have a solid grip on first place at the midway point of the East Division schedule. The Sudbury school is a perfect 10-0 following road victories over York and Ryerson.

The Ottawa Gee Gees moved into sole possession of the fourth and final playoff spot as they swept a pair of games from Toronto and Queen's.



## Karate Club Travels down South

by Charles Fink  
Contributor

On Saturday January 25, the Laurentian University Karate Club travelled to Scarborough to compete in the 5th Grand Prix Karate Tournament. This Karate Ontario tournament is one of the six sanctioned tournaments used to select the members of the Provincial Karate Team.

The Team competed with great determination and many members found their way to the podium. John Whissell was awarded a silver medal in *Kata* (forms) and another silver medal in *Kumite* (sparring). Jules Lalonde made a strong showing the Men's Heavyweight *Kumite* as he outclassed a large number of tough opponents to earn a bronze medal. And in the Women's draw, Margaret Park overcame a recent hand injury to claim fourth place and honourable mention for her outstanding performance in *Kumite*.

We would like to congratulate all the competitors who represented Laurentian University and special thanks the L.U.K.C. Cheering Section for accompanying and supporting the team. The next Grand Prix Tournament is scheduled for April 5 in Etobicoke.

For more information about the Laurentian University Karate Club please visit our Home Page at [http://www3.sympatico.ca/cfink/lu\\_karate/](http://www3.sympatico.ca/cfink/lu_karate/)

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## Vee Line

### Molson's Athletes of the Week

#### Stephanie Harrison - Women's Basketball

Stephanie Harrison is a second year physical education student at Laurentian University. The native of St. Catharines scored 8 points on Friday January 24, 1997 as the Lady Vees Lost to the York Yeowomen. On Sunday January 26, 1997, Harrison helped lead the Lady Vees to victory against the Ryerson Rams with 10 points and 6 rebounds. With teammate Joy McNichol out due to injury, Harrison has had to step up in her role as post on the team and has been doing an outstanding job.

#### Cory Bailey - Men's Basketball

Bailey is a fourth year geography student from Scarborough, Ontario. This weekend Bailey showed outstanding performances that led the Voyageurs to two more victories. On Friday January 24, 1997, the Vees defeated the York Yeomen 85-64. Bailey helped by scoring 18 points. On Sunday January 26, 1997, the Voyageurs defeated the Ryerson Rams 81-68. Bailey had a superb game, scoring 38 points for his team. The 1995-96 second team all-Canadian has been instrumental in the Voyageurs 10-0 winning streak in league play.

### Hockey

#### Hockey Vees end Losing Streak

The Laurentian Voyageurs hockey team stopped their losing streak by beating the University of Toronto Varsity Blues by a score of 4-3. The Vees had lost 3 of their last 4. The win puts their record at 9-8. Jordan Scruton led the way with 2 goals while Chris Tomljanovich scored the winner. Brad Baber scored the Vees' other goal.

#### Hockey Vees lose to Guelph 5-2

On Saturday night the Laurentian Voyageurs hockey team lost to the University of Guelph Gryphons by a score of 5-2. The loss puts the Vees' record at 9-9. The Voyageurs lost both regular season games to 6th ranked Guelph this year. Jordan Scruton and Brad Baber each scored for the Voyageurs. The Vees' next game is Saturday February 1st against Queen's. The game starts at 2:00pm at the Sudbury Arena.

### Basketball

#### Lady Vees lose to York

The women's basketball team traveled to York to face the Yeowomen on Friday, but fell short as they lost 55-50, fighting back from a 27-18 half-time deficit. Shelley Dewar had 13 points while Stephanie Desutter had 12 and Stephanie Harrison helped out with 8 points.

#### Rams fall to Lady Vees

On Sunday January 26, 1997, the Lady Vees continued their road trip when they defeated the Ryerson Rams. In overtime action the Lady Vees came out on top by a score of 70-67, after leading at the half 38-25. The high scorers for the Vees were Stephanie Desutter, Stephanie Harrison and Katie Malone all with 10 points each. The next game for the Lady Vees is Friday January 31, 1997 when they are away at Carleton.

### Volleyball

#### Vees Finish 8th at Dalhousie Tournament

On the week-end of January 24, 1997, the men's volleyball team travelled to Halifax, Nova Scotia, to play in the 1997 DIGS Dalhousie Volleyball Classic.

On Friday January 24, 1996, in their first game the Vees were matched up against the home team, Dalhousie. The team lost in three sets, with scores of 3-15, 3-15 and 9-15. Again Paul Rainville led the attack with 18 kills; Jon Hogg was next with 12 and Alain Arseneau had 11. Jeff Van Dyke led the defense with 6 digs.

In their next game the Vees played the Waterloo Warriors. The Vees won the first set 15-7, only to lose the next three, 14-16, 10-15, 5-15. Hogg led the team with 21 kills and 8 digs. Rainville scored an ace, had 18 kills and 3 blocks. Mike Ball led the defense with 9 blocks and also contributed 1 ace.

On Saturday January 25, 1997, the team faced the 7th ranked University of Montreal. The Vees lost in three straight sets with scores of 12-15, 6-16 and 8-15. Jon Hogg led the attack with 13 kills; Paul Rainville had 9 kills and 9 digs; Jeff Van Dyke had 7 digs and 2 aces.

The second game had the Vees up against Queen's. Again, the Vees lost in three straight sets, with scores of 5-15, 3-15 and 8-15. Leading the attack for the Vees were Rainville with 17 kills, along with 7 digs; Hogg with 12 kills; and Alain Arseneau with 11 kills.

On Sunday January, 1997, in their final game, the Vees were again matched up against the Waterloo Warriors. The Vees made it a close game, but lost 1-3, with scores of 13-15, 8-15, 17-15 and 9-15. Once again, the attack was led by Paul Rainville with 27 kills. Andy Elkin and Alain Arseneau had 10 kills each. Mike Taylor led the team defensively with 6 blocks and 5 digs. Rainville, Elkin, Stephen Beausoleil, Taylor and Brad Haines each scored 1 ace in the match. Overall, the volleyball Vees finished in 8th place.

## Honsing and Mike Packermania!!!!!!!!

by Honsing Leung and Mike LeBlanc  
Columnists

### Honsing

What a wonderful day in Packerville. Reggie White finally gets a ring after 12 seasons in the trenches. Wasn't it great to watch Desmond Howard return a kickoff 99 yards for a touchdown! Brett Favre, throwing for two touchdowns and rushing for another, should have been MVP (had him in the pool). In addition to this, there were also big plays from Andre Rison and Antonio Freeman. All in all, it was a great day last Sunday in New Orleans. I'm sure everyone knows already but the Packers won over a surprisingly tough New England team 35-21. My heart was pounding a little when the Pats took a 14-10 lead after the first quarter. But it was never in doubt in the minds of the thousands and thousands of Packers fans all over. It was smooth sailing from there as the Packers took over on defense and offense. I'm just a little disturbed that Jim McMahon didn't get a snap in at the end of the game. This is a team that will be contending for the prize for the next few years. Both Reggie White and Brett Favre are signed through the next few years with White recently signing a five year extension. The main problem will be signing the players that stepped up this year. People like Dorsey Levens and Desmond Howard as well as other notables like Rison are free agents. Nothing to worry about. Ron Wolf (GM) will do the best job possible.

I was disappointed, however, that the game wasn't as exciting as I thought that it would be. Maybe it was because of the fact that the Packers' victory was inevitable. Maybe it was that the game is now so commercialized that it seems a little tainted.

Everything from the half-time show to the fact that each quarter had a corporate sponsor. Did anyone else here get sick of watching the Mark Messier Frito-Lays commercial about a hundred times? Hey Global, let us watch all those new \$1.2 million dollar new commercials next year.

I can understand the commercialism, since it is the single most popular one day sporting event in the world but maybe you should have the game outdoors in the snow and cold. I think that would make a great game. Kinda like the Grey Cup this year. It was great to watch that game in snowy conditions. That's what football is all about. Playing in the snow. Maybe the game should be staged in Green Bay sometime soon.

One last prediction before I go... Repeat!!!! Count on it.

### Mike

Well, the prediction was not completely accurate (by 30-40), but the Packers still won in what looks a lot more like a Grey Cup than a Super Bowl with the big play offenses from both teams. The Packers deserve the Championship but, by my count, 5 is still more than 3, and guess who has 5 Super Bowls? That's right, the Cowboys.

Now that the NFL has abandoned us for about seven months, Honsing and I need something else to keep us occupied. That's where the NHL so nicely fills the void. While Honsing prefers the cheer for the pathetic Leafs (anyone who saw the game this past Saturday has to agree, or any Leaf game for that matter),



I support the eventual Stanley Cup Champion Philly Flyers (no favouritism there). Teams are already positioning themselves for a rush to the wire with a big deal going down between San Jose and Chicago involving Ed Belfour. To me, this was a good trade for Chicago, since I personally think that Belfour is the most over-rated goalie in the league and the fact that the Hawks managed to get three warm bodies and a pick in return should be considered a heist.

I know I mentioned how sad the Leafs are, but I honestly hope Fletcher wises up and starts dealing for the future. The Leafs stink but they do have some highly marketable players for teams in the hunt and, if Fletcher can get off smoking the crack he could parlay these old-timers for some young talent or draft picks. God I wish I could run the team for a couple of days but, until that time, I'll stick to being an armchair GM. Ciao Baby!

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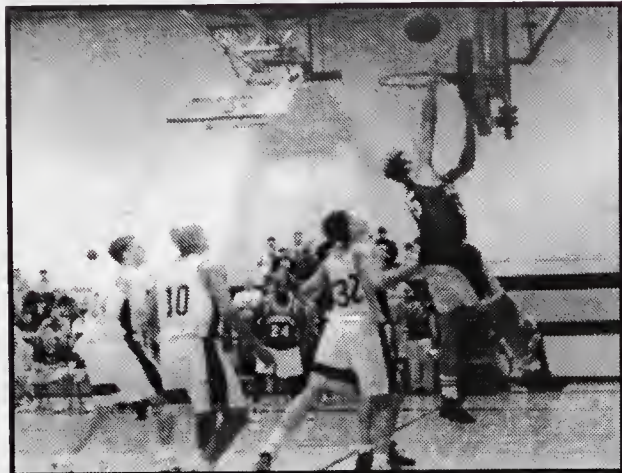
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## Basketball Vees on the Road

by Mark Cecchetto  
Contributor



This past weekend the Laurentian Voyageurs traveled to Toronto for what has, traditionally, been a roughroad trip for them. On Friday, they visited York in a battle

for 1<sup>st</sup> place in the OUAA East. Laurentian got off to a very slow start, turning the ball over on 4 of their first 5 possessions, and trailed 10-2. Spurred by some clutch 3-pointers by Jason Hurley, the Vees managed to stay in the game and led by 2 at the half. About 6 minutes into the second half, Laurentian turned up the defensive intensity. They were led by Shawn Swords. Swords' defense and passing combined with Cory Bailey's shooting touch lead the Vees to an 85-64 victory. Bailey led the way with 18 points while Ted Dongelmans had 14 points, 11 rebounds and 6 blocks.

Next on tap was the Ryerson Rams on Super Bowl Sunday. Despite a crowd dominated by Laurentian Alumni, the Vees once again came out flat. On this day they went to the locker room trailing by 3. This deficit was the result of poor foul shooting and slow-down techniques employed by the Rams. In the second half the Vees did not play much better. All-Canadian Cory Bailey, however, refused to see his team lose. Bailey scored 38 points in the game, leading his team to an 81-68 victory.

Despite their mediocre performances this weekend, Laurentian hits the half-way point of the OUAA East season with a 10-0 record, 2 games ahead of the second place Yeomen (York) and Blues (Toronto). This weekend, the team travels to Ottawa to take on Carleton and a much improved Ottawa team.

## Nordic Vees in North Bay

by Shirley Pommier  
Contributor

The Varsity team made a trip to North Bay this past weekend to check out and race on the upcoming OU/OWIAA Championship courses.

Saturday, after surviving a drive through a heavy snow storm, the nordic Vees took part in North Bay's 22<sup>nd</sup> annual invitational races.

The women were in fine form, using the skating technique to cover the 5km course. They were led by Diane Carlsson, who placed first with a time of 18:06. Carol Cox finished third in 19:05, Megan Cumming placed fourth in 19:23 and Laura Hubbard took fifth in a time of 19:24.

As for the men, Tim Heale continued his winning ways by leading all the men in the 10km event. His time was 30:52. James Ans took fifth place (32:13) while Ben Stevenson placed tenth (33:30) and Kristian Bischoff finished in twelfth (33:56).

Some of the team returned to compete on Sunday. They were hampered by the severe cold (ie. -30°C) which forced the races to be postponed for 90 minutes until the mercury crawled slowly up to approximately -20°C (in the sun!). Events were shortened and layers of clothing were added for the classic event. The men and women both skied 8.6km (gender equity exists when there are bone-chilling temperatures to consider).

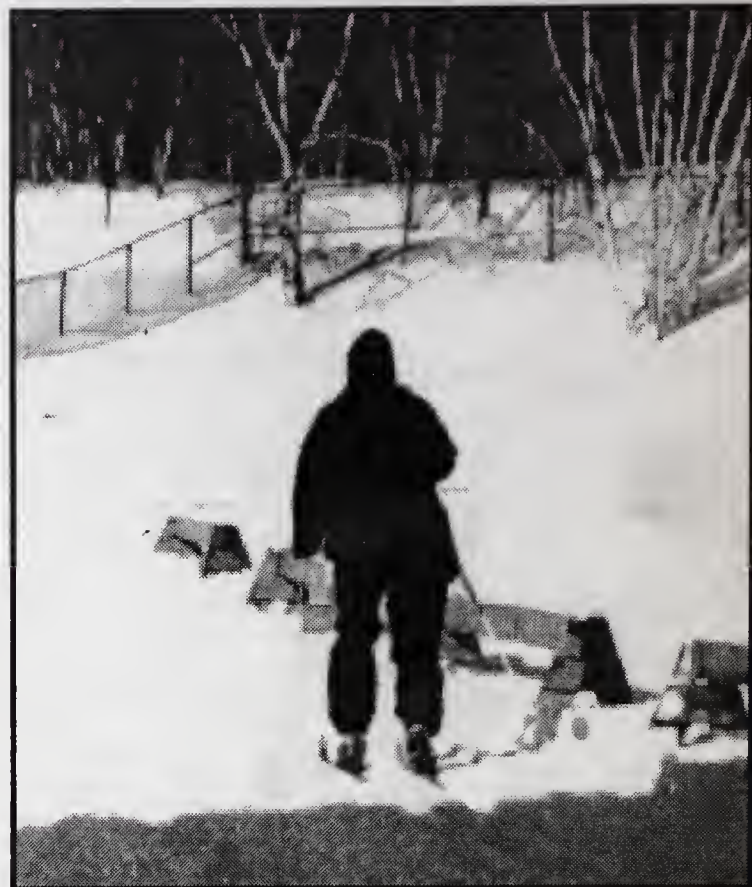
James Ans led the way on Sunday, just edging out his teammates. He finished in third place with a time of 25:26. Tim Heale followed, placing fourth with a time of 25:31. Ben Stevenson wasn't far behind, finishing fifth with a time of 25:39. Kristian Bischoff finished nineteenth with a time of 29:44.

Just two of the women participated in Sunday's race. Laura Hubbard was second in 33:31 while Carol Cox took fifth in 34:53.

This weekend the Vees travel to Ottawa and the Gatineaus to race against the other university teams on Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

This will be the final OU/OWIAA qualifying race prior to the championships in North Bay on February 22 and 23.

The hard work continues for another three weeks. Hopefully the bitterly cold weather won't.



Lambda is looking for a few good humanoids, or any sentient beings, to write for sports. If you are interested, call Remi at 673-6548 or email me

at s3000240@nickel.laurentian.ca.

## This Week in Veeland

### Hey Superfans!

What's happened to the superfans? Ever since we returned from the Christmas break, the Superfan contingent at the basketball games has dwindled. Sure the fans that do show up are still enthusiastic and energetic, but there just aren't enough of them. With only four basketball home games left before the playoffs and a number of teams approaching the end of the season, this is the time when the Superfans are most needed.

This weekend the basketball teams are in Ottawa for two games. That doesn't mean that the Superfans have the weekend off. There is still volleyball, with the Vees taking on York on Friday January 31 at 8:00pm and also on Saturday February 1 at 1:00pm. Both matches take place at the Ben Avery



Gym.

There is also some great hockey action taking place this weekend. The hockey Vees will be facing off against Queen's on Saturday February 1 at 2:00pm and RMC on Sunday February 2 at 2:00pm.

Come on Superfans. Get out there and show your stuff!